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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII JANUARY 1, 1980 NO. 1

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

STANDING AT THE PORTAL

Standing at the portal Of the op'ning year,
Words of comfort meet us, Hushing ev'ry fear;
Spoken thro' the silence By our Father's voice,
Tender, strong and faithful, Making us rejoice.

"I, the Lord, am with thee, Be thou not afraid;
I will help and strengthen, Be thou not dismayed,
Yea, I will uphold thee With my own right hand;
Thou are called and chosen In my sight to stand."

For the year before us, O what rich supplies!
For the poor and needy Living streams shall rise;
For the sad and sinful Shall His grace abound;
For the faint and feeble Perfect strength be found.

He will never fail us, He will not forsake;
His eternal covenant, He will never break,
Resting on His promise What have we to fear?
God is all-sufficient For the coming year.

— Frances R. Havergal

APATHY

New Years is the traditional time to take account of our affairs. Our financial books are balanced to reveal whether there was profit or loss. It is also a good time to take stock of our Spiritual affairs. It offers an opportunity to review the activities of the old year and to compare these activities with the Bible's standard of righteousness. This time of examination and resolution may reveal many things about us as individuals and as a Church.

We may find apathy in our Spiritual lives through this examination. This seems to be a common malady of being uncaring or indifferent toward Christ, the Bible and Christian living. A spirit of drowsiness has settled over individuals and in turn over the Church. This drowsiness allows many to leave this life without hearing the saving Gospel and it robs many Christians of the kind of life they should be living. This apathetic condition neglects Christ's command of watchfulness.

The outward manifestations of this condition include a lack of spiritual socializing among the Brethren. Many opportunities for the Church to advance her witness are seemingly missed for want of action. Instead of a pushing forward into new areas, there is a retreat into a self-satisfied state. Instead of new and growing Congregations, we are becoming concentrated into fewer and fewer congregations. This condition is prevalent across professing Christiandom but it is most alarming when it affects the Plain Churches.

Why is this condition in the last place it should ever be found on this earth? The reasons are many and complex, nevertheless this

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condition is very much with us and is damaging the cause of Christ.

Some of the whys behind this condition may be found in Revelation 2 and 3. In these seven letters many conditions among the Churches, then and now, are revealed. Apathy may be a result of the loss of our first love. Christ grows less important to us as we become interested in the things of the world about us. These are not necessarily bad things but those things which rob our time and effort from our highest priority. If love is not constantly rekindled it will grow colder until it may even go out, whether in marriage or in our spiritual efforts.

Another may be Laodicean in nature. Because we are prosperous we do not feel the immediate need of God's provision, therefore pride enters, for we feel able to make our own way. We become apathetic, believing these goods are the most important of all things, so we do not realize our Spiritual poverty.

Satan is not adverse to fostering apathy in the Church. He cautions the Christian to not be too different from the world. He tells the Christian he must continue to have a good time. He tells him that he can win others through a social program. These satanic influences cause Christians to lose their fervor, for they want to be popular and to enjoy their own lives.

In the past few decades there has been a great interest in prophecy. As the days around us grow darker and it seems that Christ's return cannot be far off, the minds of some are turned to speculation concerning the future rather than the using of this time to prepare for that future. This lack of daily progress leads to apathy and perhaps even puts that future into doubt.

With the widespread teaching of eternal security has come apathy. With belief in this teaching, each day is robbed of its value. If an unchangeable decision was made once and all other actions will have no effect upon that decision, then there is no reason to invest any great effort into any other day.

The overwhelming evil of the present world tends to defeat many Christians. They feel forced to do nothing because they see little or no progress. They want instant results, when they fail to materialize, the Christian becomes apathetic and does nothing.

The cures for apathy will not be found in any great program that can be legislated by General Conference. The cure for Church-wide apathy will be the cure for apathy within each individual Christian. Prayer, confession and a positive attitude are a part of the needed cure. According to Jude we are to "contend for the faith once delivered to the saints." Contending is a more positive attitude than merely defending the faith, which we so often do If we do contend for the faith then we can carry out the Great

Commission, Christ has given His Church. If this is done there will be no room for apathy in our individual lives or in the Church.

Will your examination and resolution this New Year's season cause you to rid this apathy from yourself and your Church?

HPAYP WEN EYRA

"Happy New Year," everyone says. But will your new year be a truly happy one? Or is your life all scrambled up and in a state of disorder, like the title above? Jesus came to this earth to give us peace, to bring order out of chaos. He wants to make us happy, within His will. Having a new year before us does not guarantee that we will have a good year, but with Jesus, any year will be a good year.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. Jesus has made a way for all our needs to be met, starting with peace with God and the gift of eternal life. If your life is all scrambled up and unhappy, come to Jesus and ask Him to give you peace in your soul. Without His peace, you can't have any other peace either. When life's problems bear down on you, you need Christ's peace to keep you stable and able to face your difficulties.

"And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." John 14:13. When you belong to Christ, a line of communication has been established — we call it prayer. We can ask for, and receive, help for our ordinary needs and also when we have a greater need. When we are confused and don't know which way to turn, prayer to God brings peace and a new sense of direction. Christ desires to glorify the Father, and by helping us get our lives in order, He does glorify God.

Besides help through prayer, we have another source of help. "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." John 14:26. We don't have to wonder about what will please God; the Holy Spirit will teach us those things. At times when pressure upon us is great and we can't think clearly, the Holy Spirit will bring the necessary things to our minds. No matter what the situation, help is available to us.

Confused thinking will cause confused actions. Jesus wants us to have a happy life, not only on New Year's Day, but always, so He provided a special peace. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you... Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27. When we have His peace, there's no reason to be

troubled. A troubled heart is a fearful heart — one always afraid that things won't turn out right anyhow. Fear and confusion walk hand in hand, and Jesus wants us to be at peace instead.

"As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love." John 15:9. Love brings peace, while hate breeds discord. Love calms troubled hearts and angry spirits; hate only stirs up more trouble. Having a loving spirit helps keep peace; it enables us to enjoy life and serving the Lord. An unkind spirit causes much distress and turns people away from God. It keeps us away from God, too, so let love fill your heart and keep you close to God.

Where confusion is, there is also sadness, but where peace is, there is joy. Not only is there simply joy in the Lord, but there is lots of it! "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." John 15:11. Jesus wants us to have His joy within us, not just a little but an overflowing joy. It is a fulness of joy which sees you through sorrow, through heartaches and trials. It is a joy which enables you to smile through your tears, and go on, because you know Jesus is with you. Such joy comes from the heart, not from the outside.

"This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you." John 15:12. You can't have real peace and joy without loving others. Love gives and knits people together, but hate is only selfish and tears people apart. Hate picks and tries to stir up trouble, but love is a peacemaker. Hate not only destroys peace in the lives of others, but hate robs the one who hates of any peace. If your life is in an uproar, take a look at yourself first. Do you hate, or do you love?

Another thing which increases our peace and contentment is freedom from anxiety. "Be careful for nothing: but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6. Pray; don't worry! You can waste alot of energy just worrying about things that probably never will happen anyhow. When you worry, you're not trusting, and when you're not trusting, you won't be at peace.

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:7. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." Isa. 26:3. When your mind is on the Lord, and you trust Him, He will certainly keep you. If your life is filled with confusion and chaos and you would like to have peace and a new sense of direction, come to Jesus. Start out the new year with Him, then you can have a truly Happy New Year.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

LEVI'S GREAT FEAST

Luke 5:27-32

Levi, who was also called Matthew, was a tax collector. He worked for the Roman government and collected taxes from the Jews. Many tax collectors were dishonest and charged more than they should and kept part of it for themselves. The Jews hated the tax collectors. There were many honest tax collectors and I'm sure that Matthew was. At least, Jesus wanted him to be a disciple. Matthew was at his place of collecting taxes when Jesus met him and said, "Follow me." What do you think Matthew did? The Bible says, "He left all, rose up and followed Jesus."

After this Matthew made a great feast in his own house. Jesus was there and Matthew had invited a large number of people among whom were many tax collectors, men who were in the same occupation as Matthew. They were his friends and men he knew well. He may have invited them so that they, too, could know Jesus.

The Pharisees and scribes heard about this feast of Matthew's and complained to the disciples of Jesus, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus heard them and answered, "They that are whole need not a Physician, but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

The Pharisees and scribes thought they were too good to eat or associate with sinners or tax collectors. Aren't you glad that Jesus wasn't like that? Jesus came to help us. He wants us to go to Heaven and He came to teach us how. The Apostle Paul says that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Those Pharisees and scribes who wanted to appear so good were probably the worst sinners of the lot. Jesus called them hypocrites. A hypocrite is one who has a form of Godliness but denies the power thereof. These men were supposed to be the religious leaders of their day but they thought they were too good to accept Jesus as their Saviour. They wanted someone who was rich and could free them from the Romans. Jesus cared nothing for this. He came to save souls.

Would you like to have been at Matthew's feast, to see Jesus and hear Him speak? I'm sure that if we had been there we would want to follow Jesus too. Jesus still speaks to us and says, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me for I am meek and lowly in heart and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Brother Rudy Cover

FILLED! WITH WHAT?

In these days of the gas shortage, someone has said, "Happiness is a full gas tank." But that is not necessarily so. If you have a dead battery you won't go anywhere even if the gas tank is full.

There is much more needed for happiness. Joy! Jesus says, "These things have I spoken unto you that my joy might remain in you and that your joy might be full." John 15:11.

What are we filled with? Even people who profess to be religious are filled with the wrong things sometimes. Peter asked Ananias, "... Why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?" Acts 5:3. The Sadducees were filled with envy and indignation (anger) and put Peter and other Apostles in prison. Acts 5:17-18. When Jesus taught in the Synagogue, the Jews, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath (anger).

At the time Jesus healed the man with the palsy, He told him to, "Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house." the people were all amazed and glorified God, "and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things today." Luke 5:24-26.

The disciples were filled with fear, when they saw Jesus walking on the Sea. Matt. 14:26, "And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear."

The Jews did not want Paul and Barnabas to preach to the Gentiles. "But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy (jealousy), and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming." Acts 13:45.

Jesus tells of a man who had an unclean spirit in Matt. 12:43-45. When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and finding none. Then he saith, I will return into my house whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so, shall it be also unto this wicked generation." One need not, indeed, must not, be empty. Jesus says, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." Matt. 5:6.

We need the filling of the Holy Spirit. Peter and all who were with him on the Day of Pentecost were filled with the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:4, Acts 4:8. James tells us, "For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

James 3:16-17. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." Gal. 5:22-23.

We need to be filled with the Spirit; otherwise, we are like the car with the dead battery. We are not getting anywhere spiritually.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God." I Cor. 2:10-12.

I do pray "... That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be FILLED with all the fullness of God." Eph. 3:16-19.

Sister Edyth Kline

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Since it is the beginning of the New Year, many may possibly have thought about New Year's Resolutions. Some of them may involve our homes and families. I thought I would invite you to think with me, "How to have a Happy Home." To have a happy, enduring and truly Christian home, Christ Jesus must have His rightful place in our home. One of the greatest failures in America today is the failure to have, retain and maintain homes which are truly Christian. We can do almost everything today, but have happy successful homes. A Christian Home is not measured by the kind of a house one lives in, the kind of furnishings within the house, success of its members or the amount of money in the bank. It is measured by the love for one another, how much time you spend READING the Bible and on your knees talking to the Saviour. Rather than thinking of how to pull a fast deal on mistreating your fellow man, be honest, sober and willing to do the Master's will, at all times.

Brother Alvin Silknitter

NEW YEAR

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Gen. 1:1.

The Bible begins with God. The New Testament begins with Jesus Christ. Moses and John refer to "The beginning." Do you inquire what they mean by that phase? We discover the answer in Proverbs 8:23, where wisdom is personified. Among many rich and beautiful things which wisdom says about herself, she exclaims, "I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or even the earth was." It is evident that "the beginning" means "from everlasting." Paul explains that "wisdom" refers to "Christ Jesus, who was made unto us wisdom from God, even righteousness and sanctification and redemption." I Cor. 1:30. God's infinite wisdom is unfolded and displayed in the redemption and salvation of mankind.

Let us begin the year with God. Let us begin it with Christ, the wisdom of God. He redeemed us and washed away our sins. Be not annoyed by regrets, nor fooled by resolutions, "Forgetting those things which are behind." Profit by the mistakes of the past, by taking Christ for the immediate present; thus, step by step, take Him for the whole year. Is Christ in you? Have you received Him as your Savior? Does He dwell in your heart? What wiser thing can you do than to say, "It is no longer I that live, but Christ that liveth in me."? Not that old I tried to be good; not that old I that failed. NO! But "Christ that liveth in me", even in me, the weakest and poorest of all. Settle it forever and say it out loud, "The life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Gal. 2:20. For your first New year's "menu" read slowly PROVERBS EIGHT throughout.

Brother C. L. Frost
Kansas City, Missouri

WHY I LOVE MY CHURCH

I am a member of the "German Baptist Brethren" church, or Brethren, commonly called "Dunkards." I confess frankly my love for my church, and thus in part give answer to many who ask a reason of the hope that is within me. I Peter 3:15.

1. I love my church because she believes in God, the Creator and Father of all; Jesus Christ, the Son and Savior, into whose hands has been given all power in heaven and on earth; the Holy Spirit, the Comforter and Sanctifier, dwelling in the hearts of his people in this present age. Matt. 28:18-20.

2. I love my church because she believes in the past resurrection of Jesus, and in the future general resurrection, and that the redeemed of all the ages shall dwell with him in glory throughout eternity. I Cor. 15:14-20; II Thess. 14:14-18.

3. I love my church because she takes absolutely safe ground with reference to coversion. Faith and repentance, considered as prerequisites, and the baptism of the believer, place him at once into full fellowship with the church, even as in the days of the apostles. Where restitution is needed it is required, but otherwise repentance may consume a very short time. Acts 2:38.

4. I love my church because she believes in and invariably practices trine immersion, the baptism taught by Christ, practiced by the apostles, and sustained by profane history. In this the candidate while in a kneeling posture is immersed face forward three times, verily "into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Matt. 28:19.

5. I love my church because she interprets literally the Word of God, whenever common sense will permit such an interpretation. She believes that Jesus in person, and the Holy Spirit by inspiration, spoke to the people in such terms that they could clearly understand what was asked of them as believers. Mark 10:15.

6. I love my church because in the evening before the supper, even as Christ with his disciples on the night before the crucifixion, all engaged in the humble, simple services of washing one another's feet. John 13:14.

7. I love my church because she continues to celebrate the apostolic "love-feast," the agape, or Lord's Supper. Jude 12, R. V. On evenings appointed for the purpose, all assemble, and, even as Christ with his disciples on the night before the crucifixion, eat together a common meal, looking forward to the time when the righteous of all ages shall be called to the marriage supper of the Lamb. Rev. 19:9.

8. I love my church because in the evening after the supper, even as Christ taught his disciples on the night before the crucifixion, all partake of the holy Communion, breaking the bread and tasting the wine, representative emblems of the broken body and shed blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Luke 22:19-20.

9. I love my church because she has not forgotten or neglected the oft-repeated apostolic injunction, "Salute one another with a holy kiss." And hence among us it is a very common thing that men greet men and women greet women with the kiss of charity. II Cor. 13:12.

10. I love my church because within her borders the common people find themselves at home. The principles of Gospel plainness (I Peter 3:3-4) are endeavored to be carried into effect, thus placing all on an equality in that respect, besides teaching some important lessons in personal economy from a Gospel standpoint. Mark 12:37.

11. I love my church because she believes in and practices anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, as even the Holy Spirit hath directed, and the apostles often practiced. Mark 6:13. There are those within her borders who have taken strong hold upon the Lord, and have been healed physically. James 5:14.

12. I love my church because brother goeth not to law with brother, and the divine is always preferred above the civil law. I Cor. 6:7.

13. I love my church because she makes a practical application of the great truths taught by Christ in his sermon on the mount, and with her "Resist not evil" is neither theory nor dead letter. No loyal Dunkard was ever found in war, neither does he encourage the spirit thereof. I Thess. 5:15.

14. I love my church because of her early position with respect to slavery. In 1782 this decision was adopted: "Concerning the unchristian negro slave trade, it has been unanimously considered that it cannot be permitted in any wise by the church, that a member should or could purchase negroes, or keep them as slaves." If all professing Christians had held our Gospel faith, slavery and war would never have disgraced our fair land. James 2:9.

15. I love my church because she is a great temperance society. In 1778 she first records her position on the question, and she has maintained it ever since. No Dunkard may deal in or manufacture intoxicants. Prov. 20:1.

16. I love my church because she insists that her members keep themselves separate from the world, and encourages no compromise with it. No one is attracted to her fold except by her Gospel privileges. Rom. 12:2.

17. I love my church because she stands in continual opposition to the secret, oath-bound society; 1804 first records that position. John 18:20; Matt. 5:33-37.

18. I love my church because she loves her poor and takes care of them. Homes, not poorhouses, are sustained, and where there are no homes her poor are otherwise properly cared for. John 13:35.

19. I love my church because she spends no time in deciding whether or not a command of God is essential to salvation, it being sufficient that he has given it. Acts 24:14.

20. I love my church because she is liberal in matters that are merely opinions, in which there is reason either to accept or reject, and which do not change the present manner of life or affect the eternal fitness of things. Eph. 4:2.

21. I love my church because she is strict in matters that pertain to salvation and grace, concerning which the Book plainly teaches,

"Thus shalt thou do." Rev. 22:19.

22. I love my church because, though she would have all men saved, she believes that it is more fitting that the kingdom of heaven be clean than crowded. Matt. 5:13.

23. I love my church because all applicants for church membership openly profess their willingness to adopt the heaven-given standard as the rule governing Christian life and conduct. Matt. 18:15-17.

24. I love my church because she does not boast of the men and the work of "our denomination," but because she speaks gladly of the men and the work of our faith. Eph. 4:5.

25. I love my church because her ministers are preferred on the standpoint of spiritual enlightenment rather than intellectual attainments. Whatever preparation the sermon may receive, the preacher is reliant upon the Holy Spirit for his pulpit ministrations. Very little paper is taken with him there. I John 2:20.

26. I love my church because so many of her homes have family worship, nearly all give thanks before partaking of a meal, kneeling in prayer is encouraged, and frequent use of the Lord's Prayer is made. I Thess. 5:18.

27. I love my church because she protects her Communion table. Although "close Communion" is unpopular, she pays an annual church visit to all her members before Communion and asks if each one is in the full faith of the Gospel, if each is at peace with all people, and if each is willing to labor for increase of holiness. If any one cannot give affirmative answers, he is recommended not to commune until he can do so. Thus the Communion is restricted even among ourselves, and it is regarded as a very sacred thing. Rom. 14:23; Heb. 13:10.

28. I love my church because she looks forward with faith and earnest effort to the time when missions shall encompass the earth. Matt. 24:14.

29. I love my church because her government is co-operative. She has her elders and ministers and deacons, but all members, old and young, male and female, have equal right to speak and be heard in her councils, to frame any question, to vote on all questions of church polity, to vote in all elections for officers or delegates, to vote to retain or disfellowship any unruly member, etc. There are three conferences, the local or congregational, the district and the general or annual. The local conference consists of all the members of a congregation. The district conference is composed of delegates chosen at the local conferences. The Annual Conference consists of delegates, from the local conferences. Any paper becoming a decision of the church must arise in the local congregation and pass its council, then pass the district, and then both parts of the Annual Conference. Rom. 12:10.

30. I love my church because holy men of God, connected with the memorable pietist movement in Germany, not impelled by the heat of argument and enthusiasm to "break away" from the "old church" and all her ways of doing, whether good or not, after spending many days in fasting, in Bible study and historical research, arrived at the apostolic ways, and adopted them. The work began quietly and earnestly; it grew amid persecution; it flourishes today in the United States, Canada and parts of Europe; and the church which I love is what it is by the guidance and blessing of the Almighty Father. Matt. 18:20.

Selected

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Part 13

We have shown that the Lord rent the throne from Saul, Israel's first king, and gave it unto David his son-in-law. David declared in the Psalms, a wonderful promise which God gave unto him concerning his Throne, which God would give to His beloved Son (of David's seed), Jesus Christ. Psa. 132:10-11. "For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed. The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body (posterity) will I set upon thy throne." The next verse says that God's Covenant of this Throne will be everlasting. "If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children (posterity) shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore."

"For evermore." Does that mean they will sit upon that throne in the flesh? Will Christ's throne be a fleshly throne? Luke 1:68-74, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; The oath which he sware to our father Abraham, That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear." We learn by these verses that there can be no doubt that Christ is the One to occupy the "everlasting Throne" of David.

Luke 1:30-33, "And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou' hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." It is a Spiritual kingdom, not of the world, that will last forever.

We shall bring two Scriptures which prove this fact. First, Christ's kingdom is not of this world. John 18:36, "Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." Second, we note the nature of the children of the resurrection world (after Christ comes to occupy His Throne, they neither die, nor will they procreate). Luke 20:34-36, "And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage: But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection."

— To be continued
Brother William Root

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Just do the next thing you know you should do, to carry out the will of the Lord. If there is sin in your life quit it. Put away lying, gossiping, dishonesty, or whatever your sin may be. Forsake worldly pleasures, extravagence in spending, vanity in dress, in your car, in your home. Get right with any person you may have wronged. Forgive everyone who may have wronged you. Begin to use your money to help the poor and to advance the cause of Christ. Take up the cross and live sacrificially. Pray, give, attend the Lord's service. Witness for Christ, not only when it is convenient but when you know you should. Look to no cost, fear no consequences. Study the New Testament to learn the will of God, and then do that will as you see it. Start now by doing the next thing, and then go on from there.

— A. W. Tozer

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CONSCIENCE

An Indian's Definition

"Conscience is a little three-cornered thing inside of me. When I do wrong it turns around and hurts me very much. But if I keep on doing wrong, it will turn so much that the corners become worn off, and it does not hurt me any more."

MARRIAGE

KEENEY - WEAVER

Sister Donna Marie Keeney, daughter of Elder and Sister Laverne Keeney, Lititz, Pennsylvania and Bro. Elden Eugene Weaver, son of Bro. and Sis. Albert Weaver, Bernville, Pennsylvania were united in marriage, October 13, 1979 at the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church by Elder Laverne Keeney. Bro. Jack Snyder conducted the opening devotions. They are now living at 129 Jeanel Circle, Lititz, Pennsylvania 17543.

NEWS ITEMS

WINTERHAVEN, CALIFORNIA

The Winterhaven Congregation looks forward to a one week revival beginning February 10, 1980, the Lord willing. Elder Ray Reed of Dallas Center, Iowa will be our evangelist. Our Lovefeast will be held February 16 with all day meeting on Saturday and Sunday. All are welcome to come and enjoy this time of Spiritual refreshment. If you can not come, please pray for these meetings.

Sister Emma Freed, Cor.

WEST FULTON, OHIO

The West Fulton Congregation has enjoyed a two week's revival meeting from September 30 through October 14. Bro. Virgil Leatherman was our evangelist. He brought inspiring and Spirit-filled messages. Although there were no souls who accepted Jesus at this time, we trust that the good seed sown will bear fruit later.

The attendance was very good throughout the meetings. We were glad to have Sister Leatherman with us.

Our Harvest Meeting was November 18. The church was filled. Bro. Dennis St. John and Bro. Robert Carpenter preached for us. Their messages were enjoyed by all.

Sister Leola Beck, Cor.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII JANUARY 15, 1980 NO. 2

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

PRECIOUS MOMENTS

At ev'ry motion of our breath,
Life trembles on the brink of death;
A taper's flame that upward turns,
While downward to the dust it burns.

Moment by moment years are past,
And one ere long will be our last,
There is a point no eyes can see,
Yet on it hangs eternity.

This is that moment — who shall tell,
Whether it leads to heav'n or hell?
This is that moment — as we choose,
Th' immortal soul we save, or lose.

Time past and time to come are not —
Time present is our only lot;
O God! hence-forth our hearts incline
To seek no other love than thine.

— James Montgomery

THE VALUE OF A DAY

Our days sometimes become monotonous. All days seem to be alike so it may be hard to discern any value in an individual day.

We have recently come through a holiday season which contained special days which heightened our interest in those days. But holidays only come once a year. There are other special days which remind us of certain historical events, such as the Fourth of July. There are individual days which are of special importance to each of us such as birthdays. Our wedding anniversary is a reminder of the special day when that special one was united with us into one body. These special days are highlights each year and throughout our lives.

There are special days that denote Spiritual events in our lives. That day we were converted from a follower of Satan to a follower of the Good Shepherd, that day when we followed Christ through the baptismal stream, that day when we were born into the Family of God was a very special day and no matter how long ago it was, we can long remember it. That remains a very special day. As we continue along the Christian pathway of life there are other special days. We treasure Lovefeast occasions as a time of communion with our Lord and our dear Brothers and Sisters. We enjoy the few days that are devoted to General Conference when the business of the Church is conducted and the members are strengthened through study and fellowship. As special as these days are, there remains many ordinary days between these special days.

Without these special days, our daily lives might seem monotonous. We might almost despise those days which seem so

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unimportant. Yet these seemingly unimportant days shape our Christian lives. Our Christian lives consist of what we put into each day not just the special days. We often regard Sunday as a special day weekly, then live unprofitable lives the other six days. Christian living requires our dedication and devotion each day of the week and of the year.

In II Corinthians 4, the Apostle Paul speaks of some of the needs of our daily lives. If these things have a place in our Christian lives each day will be valuable, for each day will be a stepping stone along the pathway leading to Heaven.

In verse 1, Paul speaks of himself and, by extension, us in saying, "we faint not." We dare not faint or give up along the way. A person who faints, "blacks out" or goes into darkness without realizing it. Darkness speaks of sin and wickedness but the Christian is to seek light and to be a light. The Christian must not faint if he wishes that light daily.

In verse 2, we are called to "manifestation of the truth." the Christian can not be truthful one day and dishonest another. Especially is Paul concerned with a truthful handling of the Word of God. Christians must not only believe the Bible but correctly teach and live it. Living the teachings of the Word of God require daily application.

The monotony of our unspecial days reinforces the thought of Paul in verse 7. Truly, we have a great treasure — the gift of Eternal life, purchased for us by Jesus Christ — but it is in earthen vessels. We are very prone to sin and failure. We are prone to desert the God who has purchased us. We in weakness often stray from the Christian Pathway. Through impatience, fear or pride, we prove the weakness of our bodies and lives. But we must keep after our lives day by day. It is in the victories gained day by day that we are strengthened to continue on the upward journey.

Our daily lives also serve as a testimony. Paul says in verse 13, "we also believe, and therefore speak." We must be believers to be Christians but do others know from our lives what the Bible teaches concerning our appearance and lives? Do others hear from our lips a reasoned explanation of our faith and practice? This is a needed, daily ingredient in our Christian lives.

Verse 16 says, "yet the inward man is renewed day by day." We need that renewal not just weekly or occasionally but daily. Because of our humanity and our proneness to give up or "slack off", we need daily to pray for help and strength to live aright. The outward things may severely test or hinder us but we must seek the needs of the inward, spiritual man. We must remember that "the things which are not seen are eternal."

Although each day may seem monotonous and unimportant, we must see each day as a part of our Christian life. Each day is important as a time to prepare for Heaven. Are your days monotonous or are they stepping stones to Heaven?

THE GREAT ASSESSOR

This new year of 1980 is upon us. How will we account for our time that God has allotted to us?

We are always busy, either with investments or seeking a way of life to meet our needs. How about the accounting of our Time to God? He does a perfect job of Bookkeeping.

Do I minister to those in need? Jesus said, "...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matt. 25:40. There is so much we can do to help one another. A word of kindness, a smile, a cheery greeting does not cost anything, only thoughtfulness, love and concern: a compassion which reaches out and touches the life of another. This love and concern can be felt first in your own home, your neighborhood and the Church. This is where God starts His accounting. "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Rom. 14:12.

Let us see what the Tax Assessor found. He came one day to a poor minister of the Gospel, to determine the amount of taxes the minister would have to pay. (This was in the times when the assessor came to the home.) "What property do you have?" asked the assessor.

"I am a very wealthy man," replied the minister.

"List your possessions, please," the assessor said.

"First, I have remission of my sins. 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.' I John 1:19. Second, I have a mansion in Heaven. 'In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.' John 14:2. Third, I have peace that passeth understanding. 'And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.' Phil. 4:7. Fourth, I have joy unspeakable. 'Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.' I Peter 1:8. Fifth, I have divine love that never fails. 'Charity never faileth.' I Cor. 13:8. Sixth, I have a faithful, godly wife. 'Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.' Prov. 31:10. Seventh, I have devoted children. 'Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.' Eph. 6:1. Eighth, I have true, loyal friends. 'A man that hath friends must shew himself

friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.' Prov. 18:24. Ninth, I have songs in the night. 'Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.' Psa. 42:8. Tenth, I have a crown of life. 'Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.' James 1:12. Eleventh, I have a Saviour, Jesus Christ, who supplies all of my needs freely. 'But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.' Phil. 4:19."

The tax assessor closed his book and said, "You are truly a wealthy man, but do you know I am not able to tax you on any of this. You have possessions that give one hundred per cent profit."

It is always time to take a spiritual inventory. Are our accounts in order? Are we investing where we gain the most spiritual profit? Can we honestly let Christ, the Great Assessor, evaluate our possessions, investments and profits?

Sister Sylvia E. Parker
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TOO LATE

A young man named Philip came to live with his Christian aunt and uncle. They prayed for his salvation and asked others to pray also. A minister came one time and talked at length with him about his soul's need. Philip, age nineteen, said, "I know I should do this, that I need Christ. But I'm young, — and still have plenty of time." He smiled and went on his way.

About two months later in the Spring of 1979, the minister got a call in the middle of the night from Philip's aunt. She asked him to go to the hospital with her, as Philip had been in an accident. They prayed for him all the way there, hoping he would have another chance, but when they walked into the hospital, they were told that Philip had died. The aunt asked the minister to use this true story to warn others whenever he could, especially the young. Philip had been careless, now it was too late.

John, a man in his thirties, seemed to realize he needed to be saved, but he never made a public confession of faith in Christ and was never baptized. He thought he wasn't good enough. Following heart surgery, he expressed his intention to take care of his soul's need as soon as he was able. Time passed, his health returned, but nothing came of his promises. After about three years, when one would think he was out of danger, John began having more problems and finally he died rather suddenly — time, the Fall,

1979. There was no evidence that he had ever made peace with God; now it was too late.

Whether you are young or old or somewhere in between, the time of salvation is now. "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." II Cor. 6:2b. It's so easy to put it off as Philip did, but it isn't worth the risk. We have no guarantee of life, even for the next moment. "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." James 4:14. If you have not accepted Christ, do so now. If you put it off, it may be too late for you also.

John thought he wasn't good enough yet to be saved, so he waited. Salvation is not granted on our own merits; it is granted through faith in Christ and His merits. We aren't good enough now to be saved and never will be on our own. We are made acceptable to God when our hearts are transformed by His saving grace. Christ makes us what we should be, if you wait until you think you're good enough, you'll never be saved.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Luke 4:18-19. Jesus read this scripture about Himself. No one else could bring us the gospel — the good news of salvation — and no one else can provide that salvation. Regardless of our circumstances, He is not hindered, but the time of salvation is now. Tomorrow may be too late.

"Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain." James 4:13. We can make lots of plans and think we will have a really great future, but it could be all gone in a flash. An accident or a fatal heart attack can come without warning; when death has come, it is too late. If we have left God out of our lives and our plans, we have omitted the most important part. We should have said, "If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that." James 4:15.'

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. God's will for your life must come first, and if you put off accepting Christ for any reason — because you're having a good time, because you're not "good enough," because you're too busy — you're in trouble. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17. Once you have become aware of your need of Christ, you are more responsible than before. To continue in sin

when you know better is extremely foolish. It is careless, it is selfish to put off salvation so you can do as you please a little longer, but it is also very dangerous.

"He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy." Prov. 29:1. Someone who has been reproved is no longer in ignorance. When God has made you aware of your soul's need and you turn away, what then? If death comes as it did to John? He possibly kept thinking that one of these days, he would take care of everything. But in a few short minutes, he became ill and then life was gone. "Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is." Mark 13:14. We have no lease on life; it can end anytime, so accept Christ now. Don't put it off, lest something happen and you discover that for you, it is now too late.

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BEING ONE IN CHRIST

In Philippians 1:27 we read, "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel."

I would like to make some comments, hopefully led by the Holy Spirit, on the beginning and ending of this verse. In the first part of this verse we see Paul as saying, "Speak only in truth and this truth you receive from the teachings of Christ." Now some (perhaps many) may disagree with what I say next. I still love you and acknowledge that I might be wrong. It is my personal conviction that a person can be a truly born again Christian and even a preacher of the Gospel and still be influenced by Satan to teach doctrine that is not sound. To me a false prophet is a person (or group) that denies the deity of Jesus Christ and thus the Trinity. But there are certainly false teachings in groups that ACKNOWLEDGE the deity of Jesus Christ and the Trinity. I might add there is at least one group of "christians" (at least in name) that claims to believe in the deity of Jesus Christ yet offers OTHER WAYS TO REACH THE FATHER. In my mind, I am forced to call them false prophets. II Cor. 11:13-14 "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, TRANSFORMING THEMSELVES INTO THE APOSTLES OF CHRIST. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." St. John 14:6, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth and the life: NO MAN cometh unto the Father, BUT BY ME."

"That ye stand fast in one spirit." One of the dictionary definitions of "spirit" is enthusiastic loyalty. We believe this comes closest to what Paul is speaking of here. We are to stand loyal to Jesus Christ at all cost. It is on this issue that we stand with the Church universal. However, I believe that it is at this point that the two greatest errors of modern day Christendom appears. The first is exclusiveness (The teaching that "we" are the only true Church.) While it is true that Jesus Christ taught that only a few will find the way (Matt. 7:14) it seems absolutely preposterous to suggest that Heaven will be limited to a particular denomination, sect, or group. Rev. 19:1. "And after these things I heard a great voice of MUCH PEOPLE in heaven,...." To my understanding of scripture these are the same individuals spoken of in Rev. 7:9, "After this I beheld, and lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, OF ALL NATIONS, AND KINDREDS, AND PEOPLE, AND TONGUES, stood before the throne, and before the lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;" According to the 14th verse of this chapter they are all those who "have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." The second error is all inclusiveness (The teaching that anyone that names the name of Jesus Christ should be accepted as part of the Christian family, individuals or groups.). Mark 13:22, "For false Christs and false prophets shall rise,...." Galatians 1:6-7, "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto ANOTHER GOSPEL: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ." If a person or "church" offers salvation any other way than through the shed blood of Jesus Christ or suggests any other way to reach the Father other than the Son, MARK THEM AS FALSE PROPHETS.

"With one mind." It is essential that each of us is grounded in the Word and come to a place where we know what we believe and why we believe it. The modern day thought that "all beliefs are right" or "You understand scripture one way and I another, so we both are right" is not good logic nor scripturally sound. It is true that in some areas of doctrine we must agree to disagree in love. But only one point of view can be CORRECT. It is our duty to search the scriptures and pray about debatable Bible doctrines and be fully persuaded in our own minds. Contrary to popular thought it DOES MATTER if a person is immersed at the time of baptism or some other mode is used. It is important whether or no a sister should have long hair and be veiled and if a brother should follow the teaching of nonresistance or serve his country in the armed forces. While I prefer not to judge whether or not a person will be admitted to Heaven on issues of "church doctrine," I feel strongly that when a person has been given a truth by the Holy

Spirit that is upheld by Scripture it is his duty to uphold this truth and propagate it in love. While it is true that the Holy Spirit may lead different individuals to different decisions concerning personal matters, I do not believe He will give conflicting doctrines to individuals or groups. It is here that I believe a person can be deceived into believing and teaching a false doctrine, while, perhaps, a true child of God.

"Striving together for the faith of the gospel." Not for personal glory, not to "prove we are right," not even for "the sake of our church," no, we are to work together to uphold the FAITH OF THE GOSPEL. "The Bible says it, I believe it, and that settles it" should be the foundation on which we stand. It should be our desire to work with the Church worldwide to lead souls into the glorious truth of the salvation of Jesus Christ. But there are issues where we have to strive together as a smaller group because the Church at large has forsaken or may even oppose the teachings of our Lord as given by Him or to the apostles.

Let me summarize by saying there are some individuals and groups that we CAN NOT accept as part of the body of Christ. There are others we should leave in the hands of God. Above all else we should never compromise away the blessed truths God has given us in His Son, Jesus Christ. For a parting word, "Whatsoever we do in word or deed let it be done in love."

James M. Hite
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EATING MEAT

When God gave Moses the law on Mount Sinai, the Israelites were forbidden to eat certain kinds of animals. They could eat animals that chewed the cud and parted the hoof. Hogs and other animals were forbidden.

When Jesus came preaching the plan of salvation, He took the old law out of the way, nailing it to His cross. Col. 2:14. "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross." Jesus said, while here upon earth, Luke 16:16, "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached and every man presseth into it." These and other passages teach us that the old law is not in force today.

What is the law that we as Christians are to keep today? In Heb. 2:3, Paul says, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and

was confirmed unto us by them that heard him." In Heb. 12:2a, again Paul says, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." So Jesus was the author and the finisher of our salvation, we know it was not authored by God and given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Paul says it was first "spoken by the Lord."

Now what does the New Testament say about eating meat? I Tim. 4:1-5, "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to suducing spirits, and doctrines of devils, Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving. For it is santified by the word of God and prayer."

We are told that there will be false teachers in the later times, the first thing they would do is to forbid to marry, and we know who that is. The other thing that they will forbid is to eat certain kinds of meat. And we know who that is. He not only gives us this instruction, but tells us that every creature of God, which He created is good, if it be received with thanksgiving. Then today there is no creature that God has created that man cannot eat.

Brother W. E. Bashor

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from January 1, 1980 Issue

Let us now follow the kingdom of Israel throughout their earthly reign from the time of David to the time when they lost their earthly kingdom and were carried away by King Nebuchanezzar into Babylon.

The time came when the Lord delivered the kingdom to David's son Absalom, for a time, II Chron. 16:8. Later it was returned. It was given to Solomon, another son of David, after his death. I Kings 2:10-12. The days of David in which he reigned over Israel were forty years, seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. "Then sat Solomon upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was established greatly." Here we give seven high points in the reign of Solomon. One, his sacrifices and his wise choice at Gibeon. Two, the building of the temples. Three, the glory of the Lord fills the house. Four, his prayer at the dedication of the temple. Five, Jehovah appears to Solomon again at night. Six, the prosperity and fame of Solomon. Seven, the visit of the queen of Sheba and his death.

We are told of the grandeur of his throne, that "there was not the like made in any kingdom." I Kings 19:20; II Chron. 9:10. As we follow the time of Solomon's reign, we find that the Lord became angry with him, "because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, and had commanded him concerning this thing," that of going after other gods: and not keeping the Lord's commandments. Hence, God said, "I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant." I Kings 11:9-12.

However, he did not rend all the kingdom away from Solomon. It was divided. He gave ten tribes to Jeroboam, but left one tribe to Solomon's house, for his servant David's sake, because David had kept his statues and commandments.

Before we close our study of the kingdom of Israel, we call your attention to the fact, that David recognized that Israel, "went from nation to nation, and from one kingdom to another people." I Chron. 16:20; Psa. 105:13. He also recognized that God's kingdom ruleth over all. I Chron. 29:10-11. Also Jerusalem is God's chosen city. It has been in the past and will ever be in the future, as a type of the Heavenly Jerusalem, The Holy City.

"Abijah king of Judah succeeded Rehoboam and made war against Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, "Ought ye not to know that the Lord God of Israel gave the kingdom over Israel to David for ever, even to him and his sons by a covenant of salt?", II Chron. 13:5. Hence Judah remained Israel and Judah to the end of Israel's kingdom. After Abijah we read of Asa, Jehoshaphat, Joash, Hezekiah, Josiah. Note: A brief summary of these kings. Asa removed his mother from being Queen, by a league with the Syrians he diverted Baasha from building of Ramah. In the days of Asa after his death, Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead, and strengthened himself against Israel. II Chron. 17:1. Jehoshaphat was joined by affinity with Ahab, king of Israel. Please read and study the account of this affinity.

After the reign of Jehoshaphat, he was succeeded by Jehoram, who was a wicked king. There came a writing to him from Elijah the prophet, which writing told what would happen to him. He was smitten with a plague of the bowels and died. II Chron. 21:4-12.

After this Ahaziah succeeded, reigned wickedly, and was slain by Jehu. II Chron. 22:8-9. So the house of Ahaziah had no power to keep the kingdom. Athaliah then comes on the scene, destroying all the seed royal, save Joash who usurped the kingdom. Jehoiada made Joash king and Athaliah was slain.

Following this we have the account of the reign of the succeeding kings, Jehoiada, Joash, both of whom reigned well. Joash

however after the death of Jehoiada fell to idolatry and was slain by his servants. After Amaziah came Uzziah, Jetham, Ahaz, Hezekiah and his good reign. II Chron. 29:20-21.

Sennacherib invaded Judah, II Chron. 32:1-2. Space will not permit that we analyze all these accounts. See also, II Chron. 32:14-15. We learn that the Assyrians were destroyed by an angel, verse 21.

Manasseh made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to err, "and to do worse than the heathen, whom the Lord had destroyed before the children of Israel." II Chron. 33:7-11. He was taken among thorns and bound with fetters, and carried to Babylon, where he humbled himself before God and was restored to his kingdom.

Manasseh was succeeded by Amon, who was slain by his servants. Josiah's reign was good. He died and Jehoahaz succeeded him, but was deposed by Pharaoh. II Chron. 36:3-4. "And the king of Egypt put him down at Jerusalem, and condemned the land in an hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold. And the king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother, (that is the brother of Jehoahaz) king over Judah and Jerusalem, and turned his name to Jehoiakim. And Necho took Jehoahaz his brother, and carried him to Egypt." After this Jehoiakim was carried away to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar and Jehoiachin succeeded him.

We now come to Israel's last king, who was Zedekiah. His was an evil reign. II Chron. 36:11-21. We have the record of God's account of this wicked king. Please study carefully. This was Israel's last king before they were carried away to Babylon and the proclamation of King Cyrus, king of Persia, a world-kingdom.

The last chapter of the Chronicles records the final finish of their kingdom. From Babylon the Jews were scattered all over the world, when they refused to walk in the ways of God. That is, all of them except the two colonies, who returned to Jerusalem as recorded by Ezra and Nehemiah.

Hence, Israel lost their right to their world kingdom and they lost their right to be called God's peculiar people and their election, as well, until they are grafted in again. However, God promised them at the mouth of His servant Daniel to set up for them an everlasting kingdom, which shall never be destroyed. The nature of that kingdom and its establishment will be discussed, when we come to the Sixth Dispensation of the world. Before we finish the Fifth Dispensation we must go with Israel through the days of the holy prophets of God and hear the conclusion of God's first chosen people to the time of Christ the Messiah of the world.

Brother William Root

TRUST IN GOD

The billows swell, the winds are high,
Clouds overcast my wintry sky.
Out of the depths to Thee I call;
My fears are great, my strength is small.

O Lord, the pilot's part perform,
And guide and guard me through the storm;
Defend me from each threatening ill;
Control the waves: say, "Peace! be still!"

Amidst the roaring of the sea,
My soul still hangs her hope on Thee;
Thy constant love, The constant care,
Are all that save me from despair.

Dangers of every shape and name
Surround the followers of the Lamb
Who leave the world's deceitful shore
And leave it to return no more.

Tho' tempest-tossed, and half a wreck,
My Savior through the gloods I seek;
Let neither winds nor stormy rain
Force back my shattered bark again.

'Tis God that lifts our comforts high,
Or sinks them in the grave;
He gave, and if He takes away,
He takes but what He gave.

— Augustine S. Hempstead
Selected

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

A DEAD GIRL LIVES AGAIN!

Matt. 9:18-26; Mark 5:22-43; Luke 8:41-56

A man named Jairus had a wonderful experience when Jesus was here. While Jesus was talking to the people and teaching them, Jairus came and fell down at Jesus' feet and worshipped Him. Jairus said to Jesus, "My little girl is so sick I'm afraid she may die; even now she may be already dead; but come and lay your hands on her and she shall live."

The daughter of Jairus was twelve years old. She was an only daughter, possibly the only child that Jairus and his wife had. Luke says he had one only daughter. I'm sure her parents loved her very

much. She was a good girl and was a joy to her father and mother. Now she was sick. Jairus thought that during the time it took him to find Jesus that she might have died.

Jesus started out for the home of Jairus and His disciples went along. On the way Jesus was pressed on every side as He walked through the crowd of people. He even stopped and healed a woman on the way. Jairus was almost frantic. It was taking such a long time. Could his little girl still be alive?

As they came near, a servant of Jairus said to him, "Your daughter is dead; trouble not the Master." This was bad news, indeed, for Jairus. He had been expecting it, but hoped that Jesus would arrive in time to heal his daughter. Now, it seemed that he had nothing to hope for. What would life be without his little girl? How could he ever get along without her? Jairus was a ruler of the Jews but he had no power to restore his daughter to life again.

As soon as Jesus heard that the daughter was dead, He said unto Jairus, "Be not afraid, only believe." As they came to the ruler's house there were those who were mourning the death of the little girl. In those days the mourners were paid for weeping and wailing and carrying on when someone died. I suppose these people heard that the little girl was sick and about to die, so they were waiting for the chance to mourn and earn some money. When Jesus came into the house He said unto them, "Why make ye this ado, and weep? The little girl is not dead, but is asleep." The mourners just laughed at Jesus because they knew that the girl was dead for sure.

Jesus made all the mourners stay out of the room where the dead girl lay. Then He took Jairus and his wife and Peter, James and John and went in. Jesus went to where the dead girl lay, took her by the hand and said, "Little girl, I say unto thee, arise." Immediately the girl sat up and got out of bed and walked. She was alive again! She wasn't sick anymore! Jesus said, "Give her something to eat."

Can you imagine how happy Jairus and the girl's mother were? Could it be true that their lovely daughter that had died was walking and talking and in perfect health? Jesus had done what people thought was impossible. He had made a dead girl live again!

Do you know that Jesus can do more than this? He can make you alive too — not just alive so that you will die again. If you truly believe in Jesus and live for him, after you die Jesus will give you a new body that will live forever. You will never grow old, or get tired, or get sick, or feel bad — never, never anymore. Living for Jesus is the greatest thing that can happen. He can make you live again!

Brother Rudy Cover

NEWS ITEMS

THANK YOU

We wish to say "Thank You" for remembering us in your prayers, while our daughter, Dorothy, was in the hospital. Thanks to those who sent cards and gifts. May the Lord richly bless each. "...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16.

Sincerely In Christ,
Brother and Sister Ronald Marks

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY

Feb. 3 — Jesus Casts Out Devils and Heals the Sick. - Luke 4:33-44.

Feb. 10 — Peter and the Draught of Fishes. - Luke 5:1-11.

Feb. 17 — "Thy Sins Are Forgiven Thee." - Luke 5:12-26.

Feb. 24 — Eating with Publicans and Sinners. - Luke 5:27-39.

QUESTIONS:

(1) What is an unclean spirit? Rev. 12:9.

(2) Do you think the miracle of the draught of fishes was the reason for the disciples, Peter, James and John, to forsake all and follow Jesus? Matt. 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20.

(3) In verse 7 we read that "they filled both ships, so that they began to sink." Did they? Luke 5:11.

(4) Why did Jesus say, "Thy sins be forgiven thee," before he healed the man of the palsy? Luke 5:25.

(5) Why do you suppose Levi (Matthew) invited so many publicans to his feast? Luke 5:27.

•••●•••

SWEARER IN GRAVEYARD

"I will give you ten shillings," said a man to a profane swearer, "if you will go into the village graveyard at twelve o'clock tonight and swear the same oaths when alone with God." The offer was accepted. Midnight came. It was a night of great darkness. As he entered the cemetery not a sound was heard; all was still as death. The gentleman's words came to his mind: "Alone with God," rang in his ears. He did not dare utter an oath, but fled from the place crying: "God be merciful to me, a sinner."

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR FEBRUARY, 1980

Memory Verse: Eze. 34:27
And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the Lord, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.

Fri. 1 - Eze. 34:1-16
Sat. 2 - Eze. 34:17-31

Memory Verse: Dan. 3:29
Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednigo, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.

Sun. 3 - Dan. 3:1-15
Mon. 4 - Dan. 3:16-30
Tues. 5 - Dan. 6:1-17
Wed. 6 - Dan. 6:18-28
Thur. 7 - Dan. 12:1-13
Fri. 8 - Hos. 2:1-23
Sat. 9 - Joel 2:1-17

Memory Verse: Dan. 12:1
And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

Sun. 10 - Joel 2:18-32
Mon. 11 - Amos 1:1-15
Tues. 12 - Amos 2:1-16
Wed. 13 - Amos 6:1-14
Thur. 14 - Amos 9:1-15
Fri. 15 - Obad. 1-21
Sat. 16 - Jon. 4:1-11

Memory Verse: Joel 2:32
And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.

Sun. 17 - Mic. 4:1-13
Mon. 18 - Mic. 5:1-15
Tues. 19 - Mic. 6:1-16
Wed. 20 - Hab. 2:1-20
Thur. 21 - Zeph. 1:1-18
Fri. 22 - Zec. 2:1-13
Sat. 23 - Zec. 11:1-17

Memory Verse: Obad. 17
But upon Mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.

Sun. 24 - Mal. 3:1-18
Mon. 25 - Math. 5:13-26
Tues. 26 - Math. 6:1-18
Wed. 27 - Math. 10:1-20
Thur. 28 - Math. 10:21-42
Fri. 29 - Math. 11:1-30

Memory Verses: Math. 6:13
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Math. 11:27
All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII FEBRUARY 1, 1980 NO. 3

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED?

Alas! and did my Savior bleed,
And did my Sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide,
And shut his glories in,
When God's own Son was crucified
For man the creature's sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears;
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away;
'Tis all that I can do.

— Issac Watts

MORALITY'S PREDICAMENT

There are many in this world who strive to live good, moral, honest lives. They are sympathetic and helpful to those who are in need. Although these people may be sympathetic and encouraging toward the Church and Christianity, they do not become Christians. They rely upon their moral lives to secure for them an eternal reward beyond this life. The lives of these people are exemplary. Often their lives are seemingly superior to the lives of many Christians. Many Christians are not as quick to help those in need nor as careful in their business dealings as these good, moral people. Their hope is that their goodness will persuade God to let down the bars to Heaven and to allow them an entrance into it's joys. They are depending upon the mythical scales of justice being tripped in their favor by their deeds.

But will their good deeds have the desired effect? All will concede their deeds are good, that they strive to honest in their dealings, that they are good neighbors but will God allow them that privilege of establishing the way of salvation? The only way that Heaven can be gained and Eternal Bliss enjoyed is to follow the plan God has delivered to mankind through His Word. Those who depend upon their personal morality are attempting to make another way of entering Heaven. They are by their deeds and philosophy denying the need of Christ's life, death and resurrection and the truthfulness of the Bible.

Are these people in the favored place that they imagine themselves to be? They may boast of the good deeds that they have done, but will those deeds be sufficient? Their morality will be

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classed by God as "filthy rags." Such rags must either be thrown away or cleaned up. The only agent of sufficient power to do the needed cleansing is the blood of Jesus Christ. The Jews in the time of Jesus were, at least outwardly, moral people. They even had a religious facade to cover the deadness that lurked within their whited sepulchres. But Jesus called these very people hypocrites. They boasted of their deeds and their law-keeping but they failed to have the proper spirit within. Their deeds for show were in vain, for the compliments they received from men for their apparent goodness would be the only reward they would receive. They valued men's reward above God's reward. The reward of the moral man will be the commendation he receives from his fellows.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23. This forthright statement defeats the hope of any who plan to enter Heaven upon their own righteousness. The righteousness that is needed for such an entrance is total. But since all are guilty of sin it is evident that no one can, by his own efforts, qualify for that goal. God gave the Jews a strict and righteous law. If any man could keep it in its entirety he would be qualified to enter Heaven. But there was none then nor are there any today, even among the best of the moral men of this world, who can perfectly keep that law. Even those who pride themselves on keeping the Ten Commandments must admit that somewhere along the way they have failed. "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." James 2:10. Sometimes a tiny seed of covetousness entered in, or the Lord's name was used in vain or adulterous lust arose in the heart. Somewhere that moral person failed to live up to the standard of perfection demanded.

The moral man may protest that the Old Law has no effect upon him for Christ abolished it on His Cross. But he can not on one hand depend upon his own work (morality) and at the same time depend upon the Christ he rejects to remove the hindrance to his future bliss. Christ removed the law for the Christian. The Christian does not keep that law which is impossible to keep anyway. But those who have not accepted the work of Christ in making the way of salvation are still under obligation to keep that law. This they can not do. The Christian differs from the moral man because he recognizes his inability to do so and relies instead upon Jesus Christ as his Saviour. The moral man relies upon himself but he is never able to deliver himself. "...No man cometh unto the Father but by me." A person can never successfully depend upon anyone, but Jesus as his Saviour. The moral man can never be good enough to save himself or others for somewhere there will be an imperfection that will not pass the perfection test of God.

If you are depending upon yourself and your morals to deliver you from this sinful world into God's Eternal Home, awake before it is too late. You need a perfect Saviour. You need Jesus Christ.

OBITUARIES

FANNY DICKEY

Sister Fanny Dickey, 86, passed away October 28, 1979 at the Leisure Hills Home in Pekin, Illinois following a lengthy illness. Funeral services were held October 31, 1979 at Endsly and Hines Funeral Home in Bartonville, Illinois with Rev. Donald Weber officiating. Burial was in Swan Lake Cemetery.

Fanny Foreman Dickey was born August 5, 1893 in Ohio. February 3, 1916 she married Howard R. Dickey in Ohio. May 27, 1933 both joined the Astoria, Illinois Dunkard Brethren Church. To this union six children were born. Surviving are Lowell of Texas; Gladys Blanden of Pekin, Illinois; Freida Bathe of Bloomington, Illinois and Ruth of California. Sister Fanny was preceded in death by her husband on December 23, 1960, and two sons Lloyd and Ralph.

ELTA BLYTHE

Sister Elta Katherine Blythe of Macomb, Illinois passed away November 25, 1979 in the McDonugh District Hospital following a lengthy illness. Elder Paul Blocher of Union, Ohio conducted private funeral services in the home of her invalid mother, Sister Mabel Harman on November 27. Elders George Replogle of Arcanum, Ohio and Harley Rush of Converse, Indiana conducted services in the Shawgo Memorial Home in Astoria at 1:00 p.m. Burial was in the South Fulton Cemetery near Astoria. Memorials should be made to the South Fulton Church where she remained a faithful member and worker until the Lord called her Home.

Sister Elta was born November 2, 1920 near Astoria, daughter of Oscar Price and Mabel (Lind) Harman. She joined the South Fulton Dunkard Brethren Church, June 22, 1935. On September 16. 1945 she married Herman Seymour Blythe. He passed away March 27, 1956. Her father preceded her in death on May 11, 1973. Surviving are her mother of Industry; three sisters, Sister Flora Myers of Peru, Indiana; Sister Alice Reed of LaHarpe, Illinois; Sister Martha I. Harman and one brother David Harman both of Industry, Illinois. Five nephews, three nieces and two great nieces.

NEWS ITEMS

GENERAL CONFERENCE - 1980

June 7-11, 1980

The Lord willing, 1980 General Conference will be held at the United Christian Camp Meeting Grove approximately one mile north of Cleona, Pennsylvania.

More detailed information as to directions, lodging and transportation will be furnished at a later date.

We would appreciate having your reservations as soon as possible. Write to:

Verling Wolfe
R. D. #1482
Bethel, Pennsylvania 19507
or
Edwin S. Stauffer
Sinclair Road
R. 1, Box 291
Newmanstown, Pennsylvania 17073

THANK YOU

We take this opportunity to thank friends and relatives for the prayers, visits, calls, flowers, cards, every kind word and deed during the extended illness and passing of our daughter and sister, Sister Elta Blythe. May God bless you all.

Her family

NOTICE CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS

Newlywed couples may receive a year's subscription free if a request is forwarded to the editor with their name and full address.

To those who anticipate moving - please report a change of address promptly to the editor to prevent the papers being miscarried.

It will also be appreciated if those who send in subscriptions will give the complete addresses and indicate whether they are new or renewal subscriptions.

It will be of help to the editor if subscriptions are always sent in the same name.

Is your subscription renewed?

- Editor

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EDITORIAL POLICY

That it be the policy of the Bible Monitor to exclude controversial material and material opposing, questioning or reflecting on decisions or positions of the Church as determined by the General Conference or derogatory thereto. Also all other material not of proper standard or spiritual value for a church paper.

That supervision over the matter to be published in the Bible Monitor be exercised by the Publication Board.

PRINTED MATERIAL

The following Dunkard Brethren publications are available to anyone, from the Boards listed:

GENERAL MISSION BOARD

The following tracts are free:

Why Triune Baptism
Plain Dressing
Which is the Right Church?
The Service of Feet Washing as a Religious Rite
What Shall I do with the Commandments of Jesus?
Daily Reminder
The Lord's Supper
The Doctrine of the Prayer Veil
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Do You Want Salvation?

PUBLICATION BOARD

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$4.25 ea. plus $ .35 postage each.

SUGGESTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

We are submitting several suggestions as a help to contributors in preparing material for the Bible Monitor. These suggestions will also make the work easier for both the editor and the printer.

1. Become familiar with the Editorial Policy and do not use subjects or statements which conflict with this plan of the Bible Monitor.

2. Place your name and address at the close of the article. We deem it more appropriate to sign as Brother or Sister.

3. Do not make sentences too long. A number of short sentences are better than a long involved sentence which is difficult to punctuate, and in which the real meaning of the writer's thought may be lost.

4. It will be appreciated if you gather a particular thought or thoughts and their proving Scripture quotations, into paragraphs and set these apart from the rest of the article, by setting in the first line of each paragraph about the space of three letters.

5. Do not crowd your words or punctuation marks close together. Do not use slang or abbreviated words as - "thot" for thought, "2" for two, "&" for and, etc.

6. Write or typewrite on one side of the paper only. Double spacing of lines is much preferred. Do not make the lines the full width of the sheet, leave at least one inch margin on each side of the sheet.

7. Use direct quotations for the Scripture references, please copy the wording and the punctuation just as it appears in the King James Version of the Bible. Given thus: book, chapter and verse, "Jesus wept." John 11:35.

8. Frequent mistakes we find: beleive for believe; recieve for receive; judgement for judgment; ore for or; & for and.

9. In submitting selected material, give the name of the author and the publication in which it appeared, if known, and add "selected by" and your name.

10. To be certain that an item is in a certain issue, your Editor should have this item at least 30 days prior to the date of the issue.

11. The Publication Board has decided that News Items should contain material of general interest to the Brotherhood. Therefore items of only local interest should not be included in News Items, such as Local Sunday School officers, District meeting delegates, minor local church property improvements and items "In Memoriam."

12. Read these and then write.

FIXED COMMUNION DATES

Third Sat. March - Quinter, Kansas
First Sat. April - Dallas Center, Iowa
Fourth Sat. April - Pleasant Home, Ca.
Last Sat. April - Grandview, Missouri
Last Sun. April - Bethel, Pa.
First Sun. May - Waynesboro, Pa.
Third Sat. May - Dayton, Virginia
Third Sat. May - West Fulton, Ohio
Third Sun. May - Lititz, Pa.
Fourth Sun. May - Shrewsbury, Pa.
Sat. before First Sun. Aug - Broadwater Chapel, Maryland
Sat. before Fourth Sun. Aug. - Shallow Falls, Maryland
Labor Day Weekend - South Fulton, Ill.
Last Sun. Sept. - Mountaindale, Md.
First Sun. Oct. - Walnut Grove, Md.
Second Sun. Oct. - Waynesboro, Pa.
Third Sat. Oct. - Dayton, Virginia
Third Sun. Oct. - Lititz, Pa.
Fourth Sat. Oct. - Englewood, Ohio
Last Sun. Oct. - Bethel, Pa.
First Sat. Nov. - Newberg, Oregon
First Sun. Nov. - Shrewsbury, Pa.
Second Sat. Nov. - Pleasant Home, Ca.

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GOSSIP, BOTH VERBAL AND BY MAIL

A. Elders, other officials and all others are admonished that being busybodies in other men's matters, is contrary to the Scriptures and it should not be indulged in, as it causes complaint and interference with the spiritual life and work of those concerned. This applies especially where there may be trouble in the church, both to local members and those elsewhere, talking and writing about such matters.

B. When advice is sought of an official in any church matter he (the official) should be exceedingly careful in giving advice, so as not to interfere in any way with proper care of difficulties, by officials whose business they are. Elders and all others should, in seeking advice, begin at home when at all possible and be careful to proceed regularly and in brotherly love.

C. In correspondence, care should be exercised not to make statements that may be construed as derogatory to any member. If such things are done, full responsibility must be understood as being assumed by the writer.

D. Caucusing, that is, the taking over and planning by groups, what to do or how to move in any particular matter is unprofitable, causative of distress and trouble and should not be indulged in by officials or any one else.

E. Talking or circulating of what was done in council, either to members who were not present or to outsiders, is irregular and unChristian and should not be indulged in.

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LOCATION OF CHURCH HOUSES

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

Frystown House, located in Frystown, in northwestern Berks County, one mile south of Route 78 and one mile west of Route 501.

Milbach House, located halfway between Kleinfeltersville and Newmanstown, in Lebanon County or halfway between Schafferstown and Womeisdorf, Pennsylvania.

BROADWATER CHAPEL, MD.

From Cumberland, Maryland, travel west on National Freeway #48, 20 miles to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn left or south under freeway three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road 3.8 miles, left on Westernport Road 3.8 miles, right on Savage Road 3.9 miles to church on left.

From Morgantown, W. Va. area, travel east on National Freeway #48 to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn right three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road and follow above directions.

Traveling east or west on U.S. Route #50 take U.S. Route #220 north, take Maryland Route #135 at McCoole (just north of Keyser, W. Va.) seven miles to Bloomington, Maryland. Turn right on Savage River Road, 12½ miles to church on right.

CLEARVILLE, PA.

Wards Church, located 14 miles southwest of Everett, Pa., all improved roads. From Everett take Route 26 to Clearville, Pa. At Clearville straight ahead South, leaving Rt. 26, which turns right, one and one-half miles, then turn right at fork. Ward's Church is five miles on the left.

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

Dallas Center is located on Route 44, twenty-four miles northwest of Des Moines. Turn south off of Route 44 on to Percival Ave. (first street west of R.R. tracks); the church is located 3 blocks south on the southeast corner of Percival and Ash Streets.

DAYTON, VIRGINIA

Turn west from Interstate 81 at Harrisonburg exit #63. Go to second stop light, Route 42, turn left to Dayton, (3 miles) right on Route 257 two blocks.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Twelve miles north of Dayton, Rt. 440 and Rt. 48 cross at the center of Englewood. Church house is located on the right of Rt. 48, one block north of this junction.

GOSHEN, INDIANA

Located on Green Road, one block north of County No. 130. Take U.S. 33 or Indiana #15 to Goshen, turn west at Police booth. Four blocks beyond bridge, turn right on North Indiana Ave., one block turn left on W. Clinton St. One mile to Green Rd., right one block and church is located on east side of road.

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Church is located south of Grandview. Take the west access road of 71 Highway 1½ miles south to 139th St., turn west, go to the second street and south one block.

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

Coming from the South on Route 501, turn right at the fourth stoplight in Lititz, when coming from the North turn left at the first stoplight, which is East Lincoln St. Go to first crossroad, turn right, go to second crossroad, turn right to brick church on the right.

MECHANICSBURG, PA.
CUMBERLAND CO.

Located between Routes 15 and 11. The town is bisected by Route 114 into East and West, and by Route 641 into North and South. The church is located on West Keller St., or corner of Keller and Washington St., four blocks west of Market St. or Route 114. Leaving the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Carlisle interchange, Route 11 will lead east to Route 114. Leaving the Turnpike at Gettysburg interchange, Route 16 will lead west to Route 114.

McCLAVE, COLORADO

The Cloverleaf church is located one mile north of U.S. Highway #50, four

miles west of McClave junction,or two miles east of Hasty, Colo., on U.S. #50 and then north one mile.

MOUNTAINDALE, MD.

Seven miles north of Frederick, in the little town of Mountaindale, Md., from east go through town to west on road from Lewistown to Yellow Springs, two miles from Lewistown and three miles from Yellow Springs. If traveling U.S. 15, this road crosses No. 15, half mile west of Lewistown and six miles South of Thurmont.

PLEASANT HOME, CA.

Coming from the north on Rt. 99, to Ceres, go through underpass, turn right to stop sign on El Camino St., turn left on Park St. to 6th St., turn right one block to Roeding Ave., turn left and go 1½ miles to the Church on Roeding. Coming from the south, turn off highway on El Camino to stop sign, turn left on Park St. and follow above directions.

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

Located in Williams County, four miles west of West Unity, forty rods north of Route 20 alternate. Two miles east of junction of Ohio Route 15 and U.S. Route 20 alternate.

PLEVNA, INDIANA

Route 18 passes east and west through Converse. In Converse, turn south at stoplight and go three miles. Turn right on blacktop road and go five miles west to Plevna. Or go west of Converse on Route 18 for five miles, turn left and go three miles south. The Church is on west side of street near the square of Plevna.

NEWBERG, OREGON

Highway 99W enters Newberg in east-west direction. Those entering from the east on First St., go to third stoplight, turn right on North Main. Go four blocks to the church at corner of N. Main and Franklin Sts. Entering from the west, turn left at first stop light onto N. Main and go four blocks to the corner of Main and Franklin Sts.

ORION, OHIO

Located in northeastern Ohio, on Orion Road, one fourth mile west of State Rt. 8 at a point six miles north of Canton or one and one-half miles north of North Canton and 17 miles south of Akron.

QUINTER, KANSAS

Located at the corner of Eighth Street and Main Street.

S. FULTON, ILLINOIS

Astoria, Ill., is located on Rt. 24, coming from east or west, turn south at the bank corner marked by the big clock. Two miles south and on the right at top of hill.

WAYNESBORO, PA.

Church is located in west side of town, on corner of Ridge and Third Streets. Turn south of Route 16 on Fairview Ave., go two blocks and turn left on Third Street, church house is one block.

SHREWSBURY, PA.

Fourteen miles south of York on Route 111, at the north end of the town of Shrewsbury.

SHALLOW FALLS, MD.

Traveling U.S. Rt. 50, turn north at Red house, half way between Clarksburg and Winchester, follow Rt. 219 to Oakland, there turn left on county road 20. The church is on Rt. 20, about nine miles north of Oakland. Traveling U.S. Rt. 40, turn south onto Rt. 219, at Keyser Ridge, follow Route 219 about four miles past Deep Great Lake, turn right on county road 20 at a store. The church is one and one-half miles Swallow Falls Park.

WALNUT GROVE, MD.

About midway between Frederick, Md. and Hanover, Pa. One-fourth mile east of Route 194, at an intersection three miles north of Taneytown, Md.

W. FULTON, OHIO

Near Wauseon, Ohio, located on U.S. Route 20 alternate, three and one-half miles west of junction of Ohio Route 108 and U.S. Route 20 alternate.

WINTERHAVEN, CA.

Located in Cherry Valley. Go north of Beaumont on Beaumont Ave., go right on Brookside (marked with a Highland Springs sign) to Jonathan, left to Lincoln and right to the church.

MISSIONS

CLEARVILLE, PA. - In South Central Pennsylvania, about half-way between Everett on Route 30 and Piney Grove on Route 40. About six miles south of Clearville, Pa., along hard road a little east of Route 26. Services second, fourth and fifth Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

TORREON NAVAJO MISSION

Located southwest of Cuba, New Mexico, 23 miles. Turn on State Highway 197 in Cuba. Follow Route 197 for 19 miles when you will take an unpaved road to the left. A mission sign marks this junction. Proceed 3 miles to the mission. Present personnel includes David and Mildred Skiles and family; Alvin and Mary Ellen Chupp and family; Joyce Reed; Sarah Wilson; Christine Martin; Mary Alice Skiles; and Daniel and Esther Roedel. Visitors would be wise to notify mission in advance. Address: P.O. Box 188, Cuba, New Mexico 87013. Please contact for further information.

FAILED TO CONQUER THEMSELVES

Peter the Great made a law that if any nobleman beat or illtreated his slaves, he should be looked upon as insane, and a guardian appointed to take care of his person and estate. This great monarch once struck his gardener, who, being a man of keen sensibility, took to his bed, and died in a few days. Peter, hearing of this, exclaimed, with tears in his eyes, "Alas! I have civilized my own subjects, I have conquered other nations, yet I have not been able to conquer or civilize myself." Alexander could conquer Persia, but he could not conquer his passions. Caesar triumphed in a hundred battles; but he fell victim to the desire of being a king. Bonaparte the conqueror was no better.

SCATTERING FEATHERS

A lady presented herself to Neri one day, accusing herself of being a slanderer. "Child," he said, "your fault is great, but the mercy of God is greater. Go to market, purchase a chicken just killed, but still covered with the feathers; you will then walk a certain distance, plucking as you go." This was done as directed, and on her return to Neri, telling how faithfully she had carried out his instructions, he said: "Retrace your steps and gather up one by one all the feathers you have scattered." "But father," exclaimed the poor woman, "I cast them carelessly on every side; the wind carried them in every direction!"

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII FEBRUARY 15, 1980 NO. 4

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

MY SOUL BE ON THY GUARD

My soul, be on thy guard;
Ten thousand foes arise;
The hosts of sin are pressing hard
To draw thee from the skies.

O, watch, and fight, and pray;
The battle ne'er give o'er;
Renew it boldly ev'ry day,
And help divine implore.

Ne'er think the vict'ry won,
Nor lay thine armor down;
Thy arduous work will not be done
Till thou obtain thy crown.

Fight on, my soul, till death
Shall bring thee to thy God;
He'll take thee at thy parting breath
To his divine abode.

— George Heath

CONSISTENCY

"Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savor: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour." Eccles. 10:1. Great care is needed in the preparation of medications. If such care is not exercised, the ointment, or tablet or liquid may be contaminated. This contamination renders the product unusable and unsafe. So the one doing the manufacturing must use a consistent formula and consistent techniques to insure that his product is usuable. If his product is unfit to use, it will mean a financial loss to him and a waste of time, effort and material.

Consistency is needed in every pursuit of life. Those who do not continue consistently at their task will fail to adequately fulfill their purpose. One who does above average work for a short time but then becomes slack will not in the long run be commended for his work. Many do not endure but lapse into inferior work.

The wise man compares the contaminated ointment, which has a disagreeable odor, with the presence of folly in a man who is otherwise considered to be upright and wise. When he fails to be consistent in his style of life an offense is given to those who had held him in high esteem. His folly may not seem to be too great, yet because he lacks consistency, it will harm his influence.

This consistency is needed in the Christian journey through life. For the Christian to receive the much-desired commendation of the Heavenly Father, he must be consistent. The Christian life cannot be lived by fits and starts but must be a life of total commitment. In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus indicated that there would be those who would not be consistent. Some would make a

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beginning at being a Christian but would fail when persecution or temptation came upon them. They would soon turn back to the world rather than endure opposition. Others would not only begin the Christian life but would endure for a while. Opposition would not deter them from following Christ, but the cares of this life would prove their downfall. The Christian, like the runner, must keep on running although there are times of discouragement and opposition. The winner of the race may not be the early leader but the one who consistently kept running. He may not have garnered much attention early in the race but as the inconsistent ones dropped out he became the leader and eventually the winner. The Christian race is nobler than any foot race. The prize to be gained at the end is so great that each Christian should be laboring so he can receive that prize. The Christian must be consistent if he wishes that prize at the end.

The Christian must be consistent not only in his actions but also in the thoughts and teachings that he lives by. The Christian must have the Bible as his foundation. Without the Bible, he can not know God's will for his life. There he will find a consistent pattern which will lead him aright. The Bible is consistent throughout, so he will not be given contradictory instructions. God's will does not change, nor does His Word, so the Christian knows that the same consistent life is needed throughout to please God.

The Christian's actions must be governed by his beliefs. The beliefs that he holds must be consistent with each other. He can not believe in Christian humility and plainness and still dress in the proud styles of the world. He can not believe in non-resistance and take his brother to court. The Christian can not believe in the plan of salvation as delivered in Christ's Gospel and yet expect his own good works to save him. There is a need for consistency or the Christian will be found to be opposing himself.

The Christian's consistency is not only for his own benefit but for the good of those who view his life as an example of Christianity. If the Christian is inconsistent, it will be evident to the unbeliever who may lose confidence in his uprightness. The Christian's betrayal of the onlooker may prove vital in dissuading him from following Christ. So the Christian can not profess great piety and uprightness then live on a lower level to please his carnal desires. His walk must be in line with his profession or his inconsistency may prove fatal not only to the onlooker, who is put off by such inconsistency, but he himself may be in danger of failing to receive that Eternal prize.

Just as medication needs to be made following a consistent formula and by a consistent technique so the Christian life must be consistent. Are you consistent in your total Christian life? Or has a fly gotten into your ointment?

"AND HAVING DONE ALL, TO STAND"

"The youth of today will be the Church of tomorrow," rings as true today as when the statement was first made. As the storm clouds of carnal warfare continue to gather, especially in the Middle East, and the probability of conscription of our youth, both men and women, becomes more and more eminent, we feel a real urgency to review our position against carnal warfare.

Jesus told Peter, "Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword." Matt. 26:52. The Apostle Paul says, "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds."

Jesus presents His Church with a new doctrine that supercedes "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." "Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also. Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again. And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 27-31. And again, "But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6;35-38. Jesus came that we might have life! It is not God's will that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (see II Peter 3) God has hallowed human life and in His hands only is the power to give life, and the right to take away life. A person who would take another person's life denies that person the opportunity to eternal life, if the slain had not come to repentance. Jesus gave us a new commandment that we love one another as He has loved us. I John 3:14-15 tells us, "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him." War generates hate; hate, murder; and murder, eternal death to the murderer.

War is abominable, devilish, and selfish. War is national and

international disregard for human life and gross disobedience of the law of God. Read Romans 13:8-10. For a Christian to be a member of our nation's armed forces places him under this condemnation. The Poet has said:

If you should take a sword and draw it
And go and stick a fellow through,
The government isn't going to answer for it,
God will send the bill to you.

Modern warfare leaves thousands maimed, widowed and orphaned and creates starvation, heartbreak and destitution. Even now multitudes are fleeing for refuge from the horrors of war in the Far East.

War is darkness; Christianity is light. War is death; Christianity is life. War is hate; Christianity is love and compassion. War is violence; Christianity is mercy.

Dear fellow Christian, it is only the mercy of God to you and me that gives us deliverance from death, so we too must be merciful if we are to enjoy the bliss of Eternity at the Saviour's right hand.

"I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one." I John 2:14b. The greatest service you can do for your country is being a living testimony of the Word of Life, which abides within you through the Holy Spirit. Pray for those in authority; obey the laws of the land so long as they are not contrary to the laws of God. Be a soldier of the cross! Put on the whole armor of God. Gird your loins with truth; wear the breastplate of righteousness; shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; bear the shield of faith; take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit. So armed, you will be victorious over Satan. You will shine as a light in the world. You will be as salt to the earth. You will be able to Stand — for God, through faith, hope and charity — against the devil, quenching his fiery darts including death and the eternal fire of Hell.

To our beloved young people, if you are not wearing the armor of God, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and give your heart to Him today, repent and be baptized for the remission of your sins and receive the infilling of the Holy Ghost. Then if you are called upon to register for the military draft, you will be able to "endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." II Tim. 2:3. You will be able to stand opposed to the training or participation in carnal warfare, and be able to register, in all good conscience, as being unable and unwilling to take part in the military program.

To those of us who may not be required to register for the draft,

let us hold high the banner of the Cross. May our conversation and conduct testify to our standing for the Lord. Let us follow in the footsteps of Jesus that our youth may be led to that solid rock, that we all may be standing, watching and waiting when Jesus comes.

Brother Ray R. Reed
Box 12, Dallas Center, Iowa

SMOTHERED IN LOVE

"When someone knows the way, and we have told them how we feel, about all we can do then is smother them in love." A minister's wife said this to me while expressing concern for someone in her family. We all know that there are times when it is best to be silent about God, but just being silent is not enough. She knew the time had come to be silent, but she added the ingredient which draws people to us and to God — love in abundance.

One meaning of smother is "to cover close up," or in my words, "to surround on every side so no part is left exposed." You can smother people in many ways, but only by loving them can you bring about anything good. The amount of love given must be above and beyond mere duty, not just a small portion. Love gives, love seeks what is best for the other, love is trustworthy. It is this kind of love which you must give to another or surround someone in love, for Jesus' sake.

You need to show love and concern for others, minus any criticism, whether they respond to the Lord or not. If criticism is all you ever dish out, you won't get anywhere in the Lord's work. It brings encouragement when you show that you really care. The reverse is true when you pick and criticize. Love draws attention to the Lord; criticism and pressure draws attention to you. Love keeps the communication lines open — criticism cuts them off. Whether you talk or remain silent, it is your job to love.

God is love, Christ is love, and as Christ's ambassadors (II Cor. 5:20), we must love also. A loving, compassionate spirit is such that when you pray for someone, love will flow from your heart right along with your words. This loving spirit is there when you contact that person in any way, even when all you get is an angry glare. When you have loved someone so completely that love seeps into every nook and cranny of that person's life, then you have smothered that person in love.

Whenever anyone rebels and becomes angry when the Word of God and their need of Christ is discussed, it is best to be silent. There are exceptions, depending on the person and his situation, but when someone already has known the way of salvation and turned away from it, you must be careful. If you continue pressing the issue, you only antagonize and irritate, causing further

rejection of the truth. Rather than talking so much, try just loving and praying for them and let the Spirit do the work.

So you think that you have loved people, you have been concerned, and you have prayed, but it really hasn't done any good? How do you know it hasn't? And how do you know you've given all you can give? "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." I Cor. 15:58. The Lord has promised that your labor will not be in vain, so let Him decide when you've loved enough and given enough.

"But God commandeth his love towards us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Rom. 5:8. If God could love us and prove it while we were yet sinners, then we ought to love others while they are sinners. Love cannot be reserved for just those who have accepted Christ. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (Matt. 22:39) means we are to love others, be they saints or sinners, as much as we love ourselves. It is true that many people aren't very lovable as they are, but then neither were we and God loved us anyhow.

"But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,... and took care of him." Luke 10:33-34. As soon as he saw the wounded man, the Samaritan had compassion on him. He saw the need and immediately did what he could to help the man. He didn't have to think about it a few days first to see if he wanted to get involved. He didn't preach to the man, he didn't give him any advice on how to stay out of such messes. He just loved him and helped him.

If you are really going to help someone, you have to give what is needed at the moment. It means that physical needs may have to be met before you attempt to give spiritual guidance. It may mean that you'll have to be quiet about the Lord and just love and pray for someone until the Lord gives him a receptive heart. Whatever the present moment's need is, give your love in abundance and let it be "without dissimulation" or hypocrisy. Don't pretend to care if you really don't.

You, too, may have someone that you are greatly concerned about. Your heart aches because of your concern, yet it seems that your help is not appreciated, your prayers not accomplishing anything. Keep right on smothering that person in love, avoid criticizing, and wait on the Lord to work in that person's heart. We have a promise in Psalms 126:5 — "They that sow in tears shall weep in joy", so claim it and look ahead to that joy. The tears are for now but the joy will be forever.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

TRUSTING IN JESUS

As of January 10, 1980 it was one year since I received the tragic news that my companion was killed while on the job. I'd like to share with you some of the experiences of living a life of widowhood with four children.

First was the shock to the mind, knowing you can never again speak to your loved one in this life. I give thanks for a praying mother whom I knew was home praying for me before I found it out. As I look back now I can't see how I lived through it all at once, but I could feel the powerful effects of all those praying before I ever knew it.

Although I come from a family of ten children I feel God chose me because he felt I was the one who maybe had the least faith. I always put faith and trust in everything I did. But now when I'm all alone, I can only realize how small a person's faith is. Then you know, you cannot trust in your own strength for it is sure to fail. Then you know the Bible says, "in everything give thanks." At first it was kind of hard to say, "Thank you" for taking my companion away but now after all I've been through this past year I truly can say, "Thank you, Jesus, for renewed faith, hope and courage for walking this road alone."

It's so easy when you have a companion, you want to share ideas, talk things over together, or just maybe spend an evening together with the family. But this suddenly came to an end for me. I often say to myself, "I must tell Jesus, I cannot bear these burdens alone." A person goes through many changes after a death. One cannot grasp the full meaning or feeling until it is your own. It seemed that I had such a tugging at my heart that I just felt like I couldn't go on at times. The Lord has always been there the times when I was so downcast and blue. First, it was the empty chair at the table, an empty place in the living room, an empty pew at church and so many other places. Wherever you go or whatever you want to do, you see some of their handywork.

Then come the words from his dear little daughter, "When can I go to see Daddy? I loved my daddy, he always pushed me on the swing and would read books to me." Your heart begins to throb and wait for the right words to come forth. Just the night before it was one year, Kelly looked up at the calendar and said, "I loved my daddy. I guess daddy got tired of working and got killed. Then they put you in a big box and then Jesus took you to Heaven." I stood outside the bedroom door and just listened with tears in my eyes.

Dear Ones, it's not an easy road when you are a widow. There are many awkward situations you get into. I realize many have gone through the valley of the shadow of death. I love to communicate with friends who have gone through the same tragic

experience. I also enjoy reading books or stories about death. So many times the words I said are spoken by someone else who went through the same trials.

I trust and pray each member of the Dunkard Brethren Church might consider death more seriously than ever before. To die without knowing God must be a terrible situation. We all make mistakes and come short but we can be ever so thankful we have One interceding at the Right Hand in behalf of our problems. God has truly been wonderful to me this past year. There is only One I put my trust in and that is the Lord Jesus Christ. Whatever He has in store for me I feel and know he will supply my every need to see me through.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all the dear Sisters and Brothers of our Church, who remembered me with cards, letters of encouragement, love gifts, flowers but most of all the prayers on our behalf. Don't stop praying now, because I feel weaker than ever. The responsibility of raising four children is not easily done on my own. I need and continually ask God to lead, guide and direct us each day. All have been so kind and I can only thank you but I know God will bless you. Might we all strive harder each day to have a closer walk with God than ever before. Life is short, even at its longest. He is no respecter of persons. He calls the young and old, so may we be ready, waiting and watching for the return of our Lord. To me, as of now, it is going to be the greatest event ever to take place. So we can again be joined with our loved ones, who have gone on before. The following poem expresses my feelings so vividly and I would like to share it with you.

It's hard to face the future when,
God calls a loved one home.
Back into the past you let your
"Happy Memories" roam.

But do not feed yourself too long,
On Sorrows bitter bread.
Life goes on and it demands,
That you must look ahead.

It's sad to walk the road alone,
Instead of side by side.
But to all there comes the
Moments when the ways divide.

Try then to remember that the
Dear one who has gone
Would have you turn towards the
Sunshine, pushing bravely on.

In Christian Love,
Sister Wanda Hearn

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

SHE TOUCHED THE HEM OF HIS GARMENT

Matt. 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43-49

Jesus can do anything. He is the greatest person who was ever born. He is the Son of God. He made the earth: every flower, every tree, every bird, every fish, all the animals — even the little bugs and butterflies. Jesus made them all.

There was a woman who lived near the town of Capernaum who had a disease for twelve years. She couldn't stop bleeding. She had been to many doctors for help and had spent all her money but no one could heal her. In fact, she was getting worse and worse. She had nothing to hope for, so she became very discouraged. She would just keep getting weaker until she died.

Somehow this woman heard about Jesus. Yes, Jesus had healed many sick people. There didn't seem to be anything He couldn't do. But where could she find Him? Everyday she hoped that sometime she would see Jesus.

One wonderful day Jesus came to Capernaum. Maybe someone told the woman or maybe she just happened to be in town when Jesus came along. That day she saw a crowd of people. Jesus was coming down the street. But would He have time for her? There were so many people around Him, it looked impossible for her to ever get close.

The woman was determined to see Jesus. As she worked her way through the crowd around Him, she finally saw the Master. He was walking and talking with those close to Him and the woman didn't see how she could ever get His attention. She knew Jesus could heal her. She said to herself, "If I but touch His clothes, I shall be whole." She pushed through the people and finally reaching ahead, was just able to touch the hem of His garment. Instantly she was healed of her disease! Twelve years she had been miserable, but now she was made completely whole. How good it was to be well again!

As soon as she was healed of her plague, Jesus turned around and said, "Who touched me?" Peter said, "Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee and why do you say, 'Who touched me?' " Jesus said, "Somebody has touched me for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me."

Jesus knew who had touched Him but He wanted the woman to tell what happened. When the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling and falling down before Him, she told all the people why she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately.

Jesus, the greatest, the highest, the holiest, the Son of God, said to her, "Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith has made you whole: Go in peace."

Jesus can make you whole too. He can forgive you and take your sins away. If you put your trust in Him, Jesus can give you a new life. He can make you clean and pure. You can say, "I have been near to Jesus; I have touched the hem of His garment."

Brother Rudy Cover

THE SEED OF LIFE

Luke 8:4-18

"A sower went out to sow his seed..."

In giving this parable, Jesus was deeply moved to cry, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." He, as sower of God's seed, knew well the heart-cry of each believing farmer for his scattered seed on his freshly plowed field. The lives of his family and of himself would depend on its harvest of living seeds of life.

John the Baptist had been the plower of God's field, preparing the minds of God's ancient people to open their hearts to the seeds of truth which Jesus so faithfully sowed.

Jesus, who knew the hearts of men, saw in them four kinds of heart soil — the wayside heart, the rocky heart, the heart of full of thorn seed and the good ground heart. We may test our own hearts with His words in verse 15. "But that on the good ground, are they, which, in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it and bring forth fruit with patience."

Verse 18 contains a great warning to Christ's disciples of our modern age of much to see and much to hear. Just how precious is God's Word to us? "Take heed, therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have."

Jesus' parable falls in line with Isa. 55:10-11. "For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Isaiah's beautiful language falls in line with Gen. 1:11, "And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so."

The basic truth of both natural and spiritual life was placed in seed by God Himself. Over the long centuries, the farmer's child early learned the preciousness and power of God's created seeds.

The true account of God's creating all things is Divinely suited to the questioning mind of a child. On this, the young mind can rest and develop. The parent can early drip Jesus' words of Spirit and of life into this young mind field with full assurance that they will not return to God empty and void. God's blessing of His living word is upon those, "who bring up their children in the nuture and admonition of the Lord."

Happy indeed is the child who learns at its first display of awareness small-sized lessons of God's sown Word of Truth. The small hand can soon hold a seed, the eyes examine, as the mind is instructed with the hidden life in the seed. Someone in my early youth put precious grain seed next to the inside of the glass of a jar filled with moist earth, where we could watch the life miracle of the sprouting seed. Its power and potential far surpasses its size and humble appearance. It first needs a seed bed, the necessary functions of moisture, of warm sunlight and precious unseen blessings of air. Only God could have planned and sustained such a miracle that took place before our eyes.

Our prayers and praises to God for such mercies should arise as we study this parable and speak of it. Each sprouting seed is a witness of God's goodness and loving thought toward us. God even tempers the sun's rays to the right degree to awaken the life He placed in the seed of His Creation.

The sprouting seed reaches downward to the good food qualities God placed in the soil. It also reaches up for light and air. As it does so, God gives to it an individual body of its kind. But the purpose of this planted seed is not realized until it heads out and develops many other seeds of its kind.

"Seed for the sower and bread for the eater." "... The valleys also are covered over with corn, they shout for joy, they also sing." Ps. 65:13.

Many children today receive early impressions of food while perched in the grocery cart as Mother selects her purchases. The bright colors and pictures on the cartoons divert the young mind away from God and His goodness. The vital facts of seed-time and harvest are completely lost unless some one makes a special effort to sow seed thoughts of a kind Creator and sustainer of life in their growing consciousness. And, mark it well, a belief in God as Creator is a vital primary belief to lead heart and mind to believe in Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

Christian parents must see the need of this seed of faith in the heart and mind of the questioning child. Many avenues of learning have opened up in our day to cunningly divert the minds of small children away from Christ and His seed Words of Truth. Knowingly or unknowingly educators have sought to make "Humanism" the seed thought of a finished education. They start early in a child's life to dethrone God in a youthful mind and to place the self-man there instead. They parade their motto, "Questioning is the Answer." Their evolutionary teaching is not a progression upward, but a rapid descent on the broad road that leads to destruction. Away from the Truth, the youthful, ever-questioning mind reasons, it can only know the real facts of deep sin by experience. Take seeds of doubt and unbelief, cunningly placed in the youthful mind, have led many a soul to ruin and despair.

The wisdom of God is clearly seen in the naming of His Beloved Son, "Jesus" for He shall save His people from their sins. He as the true Seed of Life had to die and be buried in the earth and then come forth anew in Resurrection and endless life. True Christians know no other name worthy of their trust and praise. Jesus is "above ... every name that is named, not only in this world but also in that which is to come." Eph. 1:21. Mothers and nurses can whisper this name in praise and prayer to the early consciousness of the newborn child in their arms. Songs of Jesus are songs of joy and ultimate victory.

"Jesus loves me, this I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong."

Your Brother in Him
James D. Cover

EVIDENCE OF AN ARCHITECT—If you should visit a park containing beautiful lawns, flower-beds, stately trees, well-contrived watercourses, pretty waterfalls, and many other attractions and contrivances all tending to the convenience and pleasure of visitors, you would surely conclude that no sane man would dare say that all these came by chance, but rather that it was planned by a wise head, and executed by a skillful hand. So when you survey this earth, so well fitted as a dwelling place for man and other living creatures in it, when we see it stocked with light, air, water, food and fuel, with all the other manifold things which tend to man's need and comfort, what else can be concluded but that all was planned and made by an Almighty intelligent Being?

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CORRECTION

The correct telephone number of Bro. Floyd Swihart is: 219-533-3357.

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Bethel Congregation plans to hold a revival meeting, March 16 to 30, 1980. Bro. Dennis St. John, Stryker, Ohio is to be the evangelist.

We invite all who can to come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Congregation enjoyed another revival in September with Bro. Dennis St. John of Stryker, Ohio as our evangelist. His Spirit filled messages were enjoyed by all. Although at this time there were no additions to the Church, the Word has been sown.

We were very happy to have Sis. St. John and baby with us.

May Bro. St. John go forth in the work of the Lord, proclaiming God's wonderful Word.

Sister Bertha Jarobe, Cor.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Another year is upon us and we send a hearty invitation to each of you!

Our two week Revival will be starting March 2 through 16 with Brother Fred Pifer of Adel, Iowa as our speaker. Services will be Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Each week night starting at 7:45 p.m.

We trust that the Holy Spirit will lead in these two week meetings that the saints might be built up and that the sinners might feel the need of a Savior.

If you cannot be in our midst, we trust you will be with us in thought and prayer.

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

THANKS

I wish to thank the Brethren and Sisters and Friends for their prayers, cards and letters I received while in the hospital and since I am home.

May God bless you all, in Christian Love.

Sister Lela Beam

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MARCH

March 2 — The Lord of the Sabbath. Luke 6:1-19.
March 9 — Jesus Teaches the People: A New Concept. Luke 6:20-49.
March 16 — The Great Faith of the Centurion, The Widow's Son. Luke 7:1-18.
March 23 — The Greatest Prophet. Luke 7:19-35.
March 30 — Forgiveness. Luke 7:36-50.

QUESTIONS:

(1) Why do you think the Pharisees, who were the religious leaders of that time, considered the Sabbath day more important than the healing of a crippled man? Luke 6:9.
(2) The Pharisees were the rich and educated class of the Jews. How do you think they felt when Jesus said, "Blessed be the poor for yours is the kingdom of heaven."? Luke 6:24-26.
(3) Why could the centurion, who was not a Jew, have greater faith than anyone in Israel? Luke 7:5-8.
(4) Jesus raised the widow's son. How did this affect those who witnessed this miracle? Luke 7:16-17.
(5) Who was the greatest prophet? How could those who are least in the Kingdom of God be greater than he? Luke 7:28.
(6) Why did Jesus say that the woman, who washed His feet with her tears, loved Him so much? Luke 7:42, 43, 47.

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HE TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF

I challenge you, young men and women, to go with Christ as He goes down into the midst of the problems that have to be met and solved, down where life is hard and men must toil, down into the thick of the battle with selfishness and greed, into the common places made gray by the deadly grind, into the midst of mad pleasures, where we see souls seeking relief. Into the homes where men and women struggle to be true and fail. Leave your careless round of self indulgence, your drifting days for self. Now you may draw down the shades and say your comfortable prayers when evening comes and then easily foreet. Let our prayers be for help from on High when the day's work is done, resolving we will go out and meet our problems in our offices, schools and city streets, let us go forth and meet life and all its burdens knowing that in the ultimate plan of the Eternal God you can have a part.

Selected by Sister E. M. Alltus

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR MARCH, 1980

DELIVERANCE

Memory Verse: Math. 27:43
He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the son of God.

Sat. 1 - Math. 20:1-19

Memory Verse: Mark 13:9
But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them.

Sun. 2 - Math. 24:1-22
Mon. 3 - Math. 26:1-25
Tues. 4 - Math. 27:1-18
Wed. 5 - Math. 27:19-38
Thur. 6 - Math. 27:39-66
Fri. 7 - Mark 7:1-23
Sat. 8 - Mark 9:30-50

Memory Verse: Mark 13:11
But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.

Sun. 9 - Mark 10:32-52
Mon. 10 - Mark 13:1-20
Tues. 11 - Mark 15:1-28
Wed. 12 - Luke 1:57-80
Thur. 13 - Luke 7:1-23
Fri. 14 - Luke 9:37-62
Sat. 15 - Luke 10:1-24

Memory Verse: Mark 15:15
And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified.

Sun. 16 - Luke 11:1-26
Mon. 17 - Luke 12:32-59
Tues. 18 - Luke 18:-43
Wed. 19 - Luke 20:1-26
Thur. 20 - Luke 20:27-47
Fri. 21 - Luke 21:1-24
Sat. 22 - Luke 23:1-25

Memory Verse: Luke 1:74 & 75
That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

Sun. 23 - Luke 24:1-24
Mon. 24 - Luke 24:25-53
Tues. 25 - John 18:19-40
Wed. 26 - John 19:1-22
Thur. 27 - Acts 2:1-24
Fri. 28 - Acts 2:25-47
Sat. 29 - Acts 3:1-26

Memory Verse: Luke 9:44
Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men.

Sun. 30 - Acts 6:1-15
Mon. 31 - Acts 7:1-20

Memory Verses: Luke 23:25
And he released unto them him that for sedition and murder was cast into prison, whom they had desired; but he delivered Jesus to their will.

Acts: 2:23
Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII MARCH 1, 1980 NO. 5

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

A REMINDER FOR 1980

Nations are puzzled, laden with fear,
All seems just darkness, year after year.
Planning and scheming don't seem to bring
Peace and contentment — joy bells that ring.
Millions are asking what's it about?
There is an answer — God is Left Out.

Tempers are fraying, quarrels abound;
Many are saying solutions they've found.
Then like a bubble they burst in the air,
Bringing depression, waves of despair.
Courage is failing in hearts that are stout;
Here is the answer — God is Left Out.

Some lives are needing assurance and peace,
Hearts that are broken daily increase.
Some there are straying deep into sin;
For some there is fighting and striving within,
This is the answer, proclaim with a shout;
There is your trouble — God is Left Out.

— Eric Honour
Selected by Sister Delores Stuber

MEN'S HEARTS FAILING THEM FOR FEAR

The conditions in the world today are causing men to tremble and fear. The possibility of warfare looms very darkly over many areas of the earth. Our own nation is being drawn toward the re-establishment of military registration and draft. There are new efforts being made toward military preparedness. There is hunger and suffering in the world, much of it caused by the cruelty and greed of men. The economic conditions in the world are worrisome for many, not only in the poor, underdeveloped countries but even in our own land. A token of the fear men feel is the recently soaring prices commanded by gold and silver. Men feel these precious metals are a form of security in the midst of economic insecurity. Strikes and other disruptions by public employees have alarmed many. These and many other conditions have caused a great fearfulness in the hearts of many men.

Jesus spoke of such a condition being in this world. He spoke of a time when the conditions of the world, politically, economically, socially and even physically, would cause men's hearts to fail them because of the fear these conditions would cause. Luke 21:25-26. "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

Heart failure is a serious condition when it afflicts the body. The heart is unable to supply life-giving blood to the entire body. Even more serious is heart failure when it affects the spirit of man, when fear becomes so great that a man can not continue on. It is

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expected that men of the world would have hearts filled with fear. They have no help nor hope. They have here only a life bereft of purpose and an eternity of endless punishment to look forward to. No wonder fear is their chief emotion. They have no one to sustain them in the midst of all the troubles that befall them.

Fear's heart failure is a condition that should only be known by the world. The Christian should not be afflicted with it. While all around are fearful and worried, the Christian can have confidence. Although he may not know what future events may bring, he can have confidence in God. The Christian can daily go in peace knowing that God will order all events according to His purpose. When God is in control, all will be done right so the Christian need never fear. While all events may not be pleasant for the Christian to endure or to contemplate, they will be for his benefit. While all may not be rosy for the Christian, his lot is far superior to that of the non-Christian. Even if his dearest possessions and fondest hopes are taken from him, he has hope beyond this life. The unbeliever has only the things of this world to comfort him. When these things are threatened or taken from him, he has nothing left but fear to fill his heart. At the end of this life he has an unknown future, which will not be a blissful nor pleasant time, to fear.

Mankind's fear is seen in men's quandry over keeping the peace, securing prosperity, providing health and safety and socializing men's behavior. Despite all their philosophies, plans and programs, they have failed. Men still are in fear. Men have depended upon these various programs to improve the world. They have at times even declared that the world is improving. Yet, in the midst of all their programs there is fear. This supposedly improving world is still approaching, warfare, nuclear destruction and poverty, in men's fearful minds.

If an improving world is the cause of so much fear, there must be some doubt concerning that improvement. Despite men's improvements, the men of this world are moving closer to their eternal destiny. It is no wonder that fear is so prevalent, for they have built upon the ideas and works of the minds of men. They have nothing secure, so fear is their last response.

Men have rejected the wisdom that has been available to them since the creation of this world. They have rejected God. If they would have found their programs for living in the Bible, they would not have to abide with fear. When men please God and follow His will, they need not fear, for they know He knows best and the plan He devises for their lives will be for their eternal good.

Is your heart failing you for fear? Are you worried over the conditions, social, political, economic and physical, in the world today? Give over your fear and follow the wisdom of God so you need not fear the future.

SHOW AND TELL

Christianity needs to be shared not kept to ourselves. We need to show people what it is — to be a good example — and we need to tell them about it, too. In school, the children have sometimes had a class activity called "show and tell" or a similar name. It is a time of sharing, a time when each child shows an object and tells what it means to him. Christianity needs to be shared in a similar way.

"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Show me thy faith without thy works and I will show you my faith by my works." James 2:17-18b. We show our faith, or lack of it, by our works — the way we live from day to day. People need to be able to see a good example of Christian living, and it is very important that we have works which correspond to our faith. But, we must do more than just live a Christian life and stop with that. We must be able also to give a reason for what we do.

Often it is easier to avoid situations where you must give a reason for what you believe. In order to do so, you have to think and study and there is the risk that you can't give a satisfactory answer. In accepting a challenge, there is also the risk that they (and you) may discover that your line of reasoning is not consistent with God's Word. It can be painful to be exposed to someone's questioning, but we cannot excuse ourselves by saying, "I live it, so I don't need to talk about it."

Sometimes when people observe what you do, they only consider you an oddball. They are not impressed by your Christian living because they don't understand it and it is meaningless to them. You need to tell them what it's all about, to be able to say, "I live this way because I believe it pleases the Lord, and I really do want to please Him." If the only reason you can give is because you've "always done it that way," or because your minister says it's right, no one will be very impressed.

We are living witnesses of Christ's love and mercy; we must also be talking or teaching witnesses. Some people are all talk and no action, while others are all action and no talk. It takes a happy, consistent balance between the two to make your witness really effective. "Whosoever shall DO and TEACH them (the commandments), the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 5:19b. The blessing comes when we live and teach what we believe in our hearts, that Jesus alone can save.

"Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear." I Pet. 3:15b. When someone has seen how you live, he or she may ask

why. Questions like "what does Christ mean to you?" or "why don't you spend more time just enjoying life?" may come up. You need to give a worthwhile answer, one which will point them to Christ and you should give your answer with kindness and respect. Can you?

In a filibuster, something which may be good can be talked to death. As witnesses for Christ, we need to limit what we say at any one time, lest we talk the good to death. Few people can absorb even the basic teachings of Christ in one session. If we say too much, they are overwhelmed and will lose interest. When people know they are welcome to ask questions, they will when they really want an answer. Then, if you will answer briefly, giving a scripture if possible, it will be sufficient.

"That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate." I Tim. 6:18. It is important for us to be willing to share with others, not only of natural blessings but the spiritual ones as well. We can share much, if we will. After we have been a living witness of Christ's love, then we should talk about Him, too. What we do and what we say must correspond and agree to make an effective witness, but if Christ is really in our hearts, they will agree.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5:16. The only light you have to let shine is the Lord's light. You of yourself have absolutely nothing to offer anyone. What you have to offer is what Christ gives to those who love and trust Him. Letting your light shine does not mean making a spectacle of yourself, but the whole purpose of your life is to glorify God. A part of that purpose is to show Christ to others and tell them of Him. You must not keep Jesus to yourself.

Show — and tell. By the time you've done this as you should, you won't need to worry about what to do in your free time. You won't have any! So many people are hungry for love, for someone to care and encourage them. They are hungry for Jesus and need you to help them. Take time to help, to tell someone about the One who really loves and cares for them. Show them what Jesus means to you, then tell them what He can mean to them as their Savior. Pray always for the Lord's direction so that what you show and what you tell will please Him and truly help those in need.

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Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"AND HE SHALL CAUSE THE BLIND TO SEE"

Matt. 9:27-34

It was an exciting time. Jesus had just raised the dead daughter of Jairus to life. Everybody was talking about Jesus. His fame went throughout the land. Nothing seemed impossible for Him to do. The people followed Him wherever He went. Never had anyone seen a man like Jesus.

As Jesus left the house of Jairus, two blind men followed Him crying and saying, "Thou Son of David have mercy on us." It had been prophesied that the Messiah would be of David's family. This prophecy was well known and those blind men were saying that Jesus was the Messiah. No one else could possibly do the miracles Jesus had done. The blind men had faith in Jesus and they wanted to see so bad. It's no joke to be blind.

Jesus didn't seem to pay any attention to the blind men and went to a house where He was probably going to spend the night. The two blind men didn't give up. They followed Jesus right into the house. Jesus said to them, "Do you believe I am able to make you see?" The blind men said, "Yes Lord." Then Jesus touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith be it unto you." And their eyes were opened and they could see! I think they had a lot of faith in Jesus, don't you? How wonderful to see the people around them, the sky, the flowers, the green grass, the birds. There was so much to look at but best of all, they could see Jesus.

Jesus told them not to tell anyone, but when they left they spread abroad His fame in all that country. They just couldn't keep still. The greatest thing in their lives had happened to them. They were blind but now they could see!

Would you like to see Jesus? When we get to Heaven there will be many beautiful things to see: the New Jerusalem, the streets of gold, the tree of life, the river of water of life, the throne of God, the Holy Angels, but first of all I think we would want to see Jesus.

Jesus can cause us to see too. Without Jesus we would be blind to the good things in life. We wouldn't know how to love, help or be concerned about others. Jesus can make a good person out of you, if you only believe in Him. He can make the blind to see!

Brother Rudy Cover

NEGLECT

Before we go into this thought of neglect, let's first see what it means: "to ignore or disregard, to fail to care for or attend to sufficiently or properly." The word "neglect" is only found four times in the whole Bible, "neglected" only once, "neglecting" once, and "negligent" twice. Just because the word is found but a few times does not mean we should just "neglect" it.

The first place we find the word "neglect" is in Matthew 18:17. "And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican." Let us also take verses 15 and 16 so we know more what this verse is speaking of. "Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established." This is very plain speaking. If your Brother should trespass against you, go tell him his fault, just you and him. Praise be to God, if he will hear you, "thou hast gained thy brother." But suppose he doesn't hear you. The Word tells us to take one or two witnesses along. Then if he shall still neglect to hear, take it to the Church. If he still neglects to hear, let him be a heathen man and a publican. How many so-called Christians do this in this manner? We neglect to do it the Bible way. Instead we tell everybody else first and get the Brother down in the mud. If we neglect to do it the right way, it is sin. Doing it the Bible way will pay.

In the preceding verse we find our word "neglect" was used twice. The third place is in I Timothy 4:14. "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of hands of the presbytery." Let's look further into this verse by defining "presbytery" as "a body of elders or ministers." In Acts 19:5-6 Paul laid his hands on those who were baptized and the Holy Ghost came on them. In James 5:14 we have the anointing service in which hands are laid on. Going back to I Tim. 4:14, the Elders in New Testament times placed their hands on the head of the person involved and offered prayer that he might give his whole heart and life to serving God. Also other scriptures are Acts 13:3 and Acts 8:17. In Acts 6 we find when those deacons were chosen, they laid on hands. Is it necessary today or can we just neglect it? Surely it is necessary.

The fourth place we find it is in Hebrews 2:3. "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him." Shall we escape if we neglect the plan of Salvation?

No, there is no escape outside of Jesus Christ. Jesus came into this world as a babe born of a virgin. He grew up and walked among men. He was human yet divine. Then the time came that He hung on the cross of Calvary and shed His precious blood for us that we might have life. No longer is the blood of bulls and goats necessary for a sacrifice offering. He gave His blood, now it's up to us to apply that blood to our hearts and lives.

In John 19:30 Jesus said, "It is finished:" the plan of salvation is what He was speaking of. Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Salvation is a free gift of God, but we must accept it and not neglect it. It also says in this verse that the wages of sin is death — the second death. Hebrews 9:27 says, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." It's appointed that man dies once, but all who neglect salvation also have the second death to face. Rev. 20:14 says, "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death." Verse 15 says, "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Is your name written in the book of life? If not, you have neglected the most important step that any person can ever take in life, accepting Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. Jesus told Nicodemus, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." The reward for neglecting is Hell and then the lake of fire — everlasting torment, weeping, gnashing of teeth, a place where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. The reward for accepting and living for Christ in full is John 14:2-3, "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

It is also possible after we have received this gift of salvation to neglect and eventually fall from grace. Just one verse to back this up is II Peter 2:20, "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning." Let's not neglect our duties after we have accepted Jesus. Let's keep pressing onward and upward toward that mark. Salvation is a gift and cannot be bought or gotten by works. After we have accepted this plan of salvation into our hearts and lives, works will follow. Faith without works is dead.

The first place we found the word "neglect" was in Matthew, but even before then Lucifer wanted to be greater than God. He neglected to be under God, therefore he fell and great was his fall. Eve neglected to take heed to what God had said, "But of the tree

of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it." We could go on and on and branch out into different avenues from this word "neglect." Jonah neglected to go to Nineveh when God told him to. Instead, he tried to run away. He could have prevented many troubles if he would not have neglected in the first place. John 14:15 says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Do we do them or do we neglect them?

The word "neglected" is found in Acts 6:1, "And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration." Here we find because the widows were being neglected, they appointed seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, to take care of this business. In this account we find Stephen was chosen as one of the deacons. The account of him is a beautiful picture. He surely didn't neglect his duty. James 1:27, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Stephen's outcome was being stoned, but remember what he saw. Acts 7:55, "But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God." In verse 60 he kneeled down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord lay not this sin to their charge." And when he had said this, he fell asleep. Yes, Brother Stephen did not neglect his duty.

Sometimes we go down the road and see a house falling together, windows broken out, some boarded shut, grass grown up — this place surely is neglected. We can neglect our jobs, our homes, our families, the Church, our spiritual lives. It is sin. Many times it seems like we are too busy to take the time to teach our children things of God. If that's the case, we are neglecting and it is sin. The next time you think you are so busy and your child comes up to you and asks, "Daddy, will you help me put this puzzle together?", before you say "No, I'm too busy," stop and think of neglect and how it can ruin that child. If we love our children we also will correct them when needed. Proverbs 22:15, "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him." Proverbs 23:13-14, "Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him not with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell." Those are pretty strong words, nevertheless they are scripture. If we just let the children go, give them everything they want, we are then giving them over to Satan and Hell is their destiny. Teach them right. Ephesians 6:4, "And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the admonition of

the Lord." In doing so we shall deliver their souls from Hell. We cannot neglect our children and just let them go, then expect someone else to teach them right. We must first do our duty of teaching them at home, and from there seeing they are provided the right education. I'm afraid the public schools, anymore, are only trying to unteach what we teach our children. I've heard of public school teachers being dismissed for mentioning God in the way He should be mentioned. We teach our children things of God, then send them off to school to be taught secular humanism. It just doesn't make sense to me.

You know, I believe it's even possible to try and cover up our neglect by saying we have faith. First of all we as Christians need faith — we cannot please God without faith — but let's not cover up our neglect with it. There is a story of an individual who went to church with another person. As they got out of the car to go into the church the person said to the driver, "Don't you take your keys out?" The driver replied, "Oh, no, I have faith the Lord will take care of my car while I'm in church." The passenger said, "The thief doesn't care who you are, if he sees a good chance of getting a car he will surely try. Also you are tempting the thief." When they came out of the church, the car was gone. The driver said, "I was sure I had enough faith that my car would still be here." Later on, the car was recovered and the thief sent to jail, but just think if he, in the first place, would not have neglected taking out the keys, he would not have tempted the thief. I'm going to say again, we need faith and more of it, but don't neglect your part first,

Due to neglect we can become sick — neglecting to take care of our bodies as we should. God made us and he expects us to take care of what he made. I Cor. 3:16-17, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." I Cor. 6:19. "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" Are we taking care of what God gave us? When we think of defiling our bodies, we think of smoking, drinking, drugs, and so forth and how true it is that they will defile. But what about overeating and worry — which can bring on a lot of sickness. Lying defiles our bodies. You could name a whole list of what defiles a person. So, let's not neglect our bodies, for they are God's, not our own.

We must not neglect letting our light shine, telling others of God's plan of salvation. If we love God and His plan, we will want to share it with others. Do we desire to see souls saved or do we just care about ourselves and that's it? Self righteousness is a sin.

Matthew 25:42-46, "For I was an hungered, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in; naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."

There we have the reward for those that neglect — everlasting punishment. By neglecting our duties we are neglecting God, but thanks be unto God, the reward for those who do not neglect is life eternal.

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THE WISE AND THE FOOLISH

We have the record in the saving Gospel of Christ of the ten virgins. Five were wise and five were foolish. Five were prepared to go to the marriage and five were unprepared. When it was too late the foolish pleaded to the wise for help and received none. We can be wise or foolish with the temporal things of life. The same is true with the Spiritual things of life.

Through the wisdom of God's Word, we can be among the wise. The wise have accepted the plan of salvation which includes the renouncing of Satan with all his pernicious ways and the sinful pleasures of this world. Today, we have the prepared and unprepared. "And that from a child thou has known the holy scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." II Tim. 3:15.

The wise are building on the solid rock, Christ Jesus. The foolish are building on sinking sand. The way of the foolish is right in their own eyes. "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." Matt. 10:16. We need the knowledge of truth and righteousness and faithful service to the Lord. The fool layeth up his own folly and some go as if to say in their heart, "there is no God." We have the record of one who became very rich in this world's goods but had nothing laid up for eternity.

We need wisdom from above. It will guide us into all truth and make certain we will not be among the foolish. "Understand, ye brutish among the people: and ye fools, when will ye be wise?"

Psalms 94:8. "...For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." "The foolishness of man preverteth his way..." "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise." Eph. 5:15.

The Holy Spirit cannot dwell in hearts filled with foolishness. Time spent telling foolish jokes and stories should be used in doing good.

Many have their own way and will not accept the way of truth and righteousness. "Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits." Rom. 12:16. Jesus told the ruler, "Ye must be born again." Without it you cannot enter the kingdom of Heaven. This includes a birth of water and of the Spirit and a walk in newness of life, the path of truth and righteousness. The wise shall inherit glory, but shame shall be the promotion of fools. It is foolish to judge and condemn people because of the evil deeds of others. "And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will." II Tim. 20:26.

The day will come when many will be disappointed with their eternal reward. Today we have religious leaders who approve of almost all manner of evil. The Apostle Paul said, "O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth." The way of injustice is of sin and folly. Justice is of truth and righteousness. "To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen." Rom. 16:27.

When our forefathers founded this nation, the words of professing Christians were dependable. It is not so in our day, for many have chosen the way of not being true. This includes sin and folly. We are living in the latter times with false accusers and fierce despisers of those that are good. Many are so foolish as to engage in sinful lusts that are destructive to the health. Narrow is the way to eternal glory; broad is the way to destruction. Satan sometimes even appears as an angel of light. Foolish things are being done by some men who claim to be religious leaders. They place unjust hardships upon others, even going to the extent of claiming that suicide and murder are acts of righteousness. They turn the Word of God into laciviousness. We have the privilege of choosing the wise way of truth and righteousness or the foolish way of sin.

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DOORS

Doors can close you out or keep you in. When Noah and his family were all in the Ark, God closed the door. They were safe on the inside. Those on the outside were kept out and all perished in the great flood. Gen. 7:16.

Jesus tells a parable about the five wise and five foolish virgins who were going to a wedding. The five foolish virgins took their lamps but no oil with them. The wise ones took oil in their vessels with their lamps. When the message was sent, "Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him," they all trimmed their lamps. The foolish said unto the wise, "Give us of your oil, for our lamps are gone out." But they were told them to go buy oil for themselves. While they were gone the bridegroom came and they who were ready went in with him to the marriage. And the door was shut. When the five foolish virgins came back and called, "Lord, Lord, open to us," he answered, "Verily, I say unto you, I know you not." Jesus compared this to the kingdom of Heaven. "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the son of man cometh." Matt. 25:1-13.

When prison doors clang shut, the prisoner is shut in. Have you ever been heading for an elevator with an open door? Just before you got there, the door went shut. How frustrating that is!

There is an open door and no man can shut it. Rev. 3:8. Jesus is the door of salvation, our door of opportunity to be saved. He says, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture." John 10:9.

I have a door that only I can open. You, also, have a door that only you can open. Jesus says, "Behold, I stand at (your) door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Rev. 3:20. How wonderful! to have our best friend to live with us and guide us into all truth.

There is another door that Jesus tells us to use. "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret, and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." Matt. 6:16.

From where I sit in Church, I can see an EXIT sign above the door. It is there to show the way out should a fire or other emergency happen. There is a time coming on this old earth that Jesus warned us about. Terrible times are coming. Men's hearts will be failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. Luke 21:26. Also read Matt. 24. "So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors."

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

Elder Ray S. Shank has a new telephone number, which is 717-697-3868. This is a private line. This change should also appear in the Directory of Information.

SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

This past year we again had the privilege of enjoying another Revival Meeting. Our evangelist, Bro. Fred Pife, his wife, Diane, and daughter Rebecca from Iowa were with us for two weeks. Bro. Fred gave us many inspiring and soul searching messages. We were happy for the many visitors from other congregations and denominations each evening. May the Lord richly bless Bro. Fred in his labors for the Lord.

Our Lovefeast in November was another Christian experience. We were blessed with a good attendance, but with not as many visiting ministers as usual. We were thankful for the day of good messages, meditation, and fellowship.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.

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CHRIST OR THE BALL—A young lady became under conviction at a meeting, and felt that she should yield to Christ. But, if memory serves us right, she had promised a young man to accompany him to a ball to be held in the future. That night, before retiring, she wrote something like this: "One year from to-night I will become a Christian," then she lay down to rest, but sleep she could not. Then she arose and wrote: "Six months from to-night I will give my heart to God," and again lay down, but no rest to body or soul could she find. Thus, again and again, she arose and shortened the time, until at last she wrote: "Tomorrow I will become a Christian," but refused to settle it then and there. In the morning she did not appear, and friends, on going to her room, found her body cold and silent in the embrace of death, the spirit having departed to meet the realties beyond.

Matt. 24:33. We should know where our EXIT is. This same Jesus who is our door will also be our way of escape. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: And the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: And so shall we ever be with the Lord." I Thess. 4:16-17.

Jesus is coming to earth again,
What if it were today?
Coming in power and love to reign,
What if it were today?
Coming to claim His chosen Bride,
All the redeemed and purified,
Over this whole earth scattered wide.
What if it were today?
Satan's dominion will then be o'er,
O, that it were today!
Sorrow and sighing shall be no more,
O, that it were today!
Then shall the dead in Christ arise,
Caught up to meet Him in the skies
When shall these glories meet our eyes?
What if it were today?
Faithful and true would He find us here,
If He should come today?
Watching in gladness and not in fear,
If He should come today?
Signs of His coming multiply,
Morning light breaks in the eastern sky,
Watch, for the time is drawing nigh,
What if it were today?

— Selected from Hymns for the Family of God
Sister Edyth Kline

NO PUZZLE

An infidel who was trying to confuse a colored man, asked how it could be that a Christian could be in the Spirit and the Spirit in him. "Oh, there is no puzzle about that. It is like that poker. I put it into the fire until it become red-hot. Now, the poker is in the fire, and the fire is in the poker."

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Is anybody happier because you passed this way?
Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today?
This day is nearly over and its toiling time is through,
Is there anyone to utter a kindly word of you?
Did you give a friendly greeting to the friend who came along?
Or a churlish sort of "Howdy" - then vanished in the throng?
Were you selfish, pure and simple, as you rushed along your way,
Or is someone mighty grateful for a deed you did today?
Can you say tonight in parting with the day that's slipping fast,
That you helped a single brother of the many that you passed?
Is there a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said?
Does a man whose hopes are fading, now with courage look ahead?
Did you waste the day or lose it, Was it well or poorly spent?
Did you leave a trail of kindness or a scar of discontent?
As you close your eyes in slumber, do you think that God would say,
You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today?

- Author Unknown
Selected by Sister Martha Shaffer

JESUS WEPT

The shortest verse in the Bible contains only two words which contain so much. There is a depth of feeling that goes beyond the immediate scene of the grave of Lazarus. The tears that Jesus shed were more than tears of grief for His dear friend who laid in that grave.

His friends at Bethany were very dear to Him. This was one place where He could find fellowship and understanding. Here in Bethany, which was within walking distance of Jerusalem, He could find those who cared, while He was opposed by the Pharisees and others at Jerusalem. It touched Him deeply when His friend sickened and died. Jesus always demonstrated that "God is love." This was no exception. His concern for Mary and Martha, now berift of their brother, must have caused the tears to come even though the remedy was near. He could remember the times of fellowship with Lazarus. With these times apparently at an end He could weep with the others. He demonstrated His love for this family by the sympathizing tear. The human side of Jesus was affected by the human illnesses and death around Him. This season of compassion had a happier end than most, for Jesus was more than mortal man. Jesus is God and He is the Resurrection and the Life.

His tears were shed for more than Lazarus. Lazarus would soon come forth from the grave. Jesus wept because death was a necessary part of the life of mankind. It was not the intention of God that death should be man's lot. But Adam and Eve listened to the beguiling words of Satan. As a result, they and their descendants now must face death. "The wages of sin is death..."

THE BIBLE MONITOR MARCH 15, 1980

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God in His mercy denied them access to the tree of life so they would not live eternally in their fallen condition but rather provided a bloody sacrifice to cover their nakedness and their sin. Jesus wept because this sentence of death had come upon mankind. It perhaps reminded Him that in a few months He, too, would have to taste death that mankind might have a perfect covering for their sin and have hope of an eternal life beyond the earth's grave.

Adam and Eve's descendants have not chosen any more wisely than their foreparents. Men at the time of Jesus' earthly ministry and men today still choose to listen to Satan. They still must pay the same penalty — death. The graveyards are full in many places. But even sadder than the filling of the cemeteries is the filling of Hell. Jesus had ministered with His Father and through the Holy Spirit that man might have an eternal Home of bliss in Heaven. It must have been a burden on His heart to realize that the best that God had to offer would be rejected by the multitudes and would be chosen only by a remnant. His tears flowed for the masses who were and still are choosing the eternal agonies of Hell.

The hard-heartedness and indifference of man toward the Gospel which was established at such a great price was a reason for tears to flow. Men yet remain hard-hearted and uncaring about their soul's eternal destiny. Others may care and desire to better their condition but delay. These perhaps are the cause of more tears than those who have completely rejected the way of life. For these to be so near yet unwilling to give up their will is like Martha who professed that there would be resurrection but yet shrank from the opening of Lazarus' tomb. How many tears did Jesus shed for those who are so close, yet they delay and eventually lose their opportunity for Heaven.

But Jesus shed tears not only for unbelievers. They flowed also for those who would identify themselves with Him but who would stray. The Apostle Peter made wonderful professions of fidelity. He said that he would be willing to die for Jesus but yet he very soon would deny Jesus thrice. Was there a tear in Jesus' eye when He looked at Peter at the cock's crowing? Many are willing to profess themselves to be Christians but when there is opposition or when the Church asks them to lay aside the playthings and sins of the world they become offended. Many wish to enjoy the privileges and blessings both now and eternally that are for Christians, but they do not wish to invest their time, talent or effort in the Lord's work. How many tears have been shed because of Christians who found their joys with the wolves rather than with the sheep?

Christians are to have more than His name, they are to bear His image. If a Christian is fashioned in His image then it would be expected that there would be tears shed yet today for the same

conditions that prevailed when Jesus wept. Are you weeping for those who need compassion, for those who are indifferent to their soul's fate, for those who stray from the Christian pathway? "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Ps. 126:6. Jesus wept. Do you?

TEENAGER, WHAT IS YOUR LIFE?

In II Chronicles 21, we find the account of King Jehoram's evil reign. King Jehoram's father, King Jehoshaphat, did that which was right in the sight of the Lord. But we see that Jehoram did not follow the ways of his father.

After King Jehosaphat died, his goods were divided among his sons. We find that Jehoram was given the kingdom and he blew everything. The first thing Jehoram did was kill all seven of his brothers. After that he picked a wife from the family of Ahab. Now we know that Ahab was a wicked man and an idol worshipper. After Jehoram took Ahab's daughter for a wife, he also took Ahab's religion and turned all the more against God.

But we find that God will only let someone go so far before He steps in. When He steps in He makes every step count. After so long, the Lord started to turn the tables on Jehoram. He led the Phillistines and the Arabians against Jehoram. They destroyed everything that they found in Jehoram's house, even his wives and his children except for the youngest son. As if that wasn't enough, he was stricken with an incurable disease. He suffered two years with the disease then died.

Teenager, what are you doing with your life? Your parents left you a Godly heritage and much to be thankful for. Are you going to blow it the same way Jehoram did? If you do, we know that God may pour out his wrath on you and you will have to pay the high price for disobedience. On the other hand, if you choose to serve God there are many blessings waiting for you. It's your life what will you do with it?

Brother James Eberly

SOMEONE TO CARE

"Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up." Ecc. 4:9-10. We know Christ cares for us and we need to care for each other. If we, who say we love each other, don't understand and try to help, who will? Gal. 6:2 says, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Christ's law is to

love and care about others, that means we should help each other.

We all need someone to care so we can care about living, both the way we live and the amount of energy we put into it. Whether we are strong and stable, or weak and insecure, troubles and heartaches can cause us great distress. When our hearts are grieved and we can't help ourselves, then it takes God's love and the prayers of those who love us to lift us up. We can't do it alone. Help from another lifts up our hearts and encourages us to go on.

We face relationships that are less than ideal, with personality clashes and disagreements of all sorts. Satan pressures us and causes heartache and trouble for us whenever he can. Illness may upset us. Whatever the problem, we aren't always able to reach out to God in faith for that particular need. That is when we need someone to care, to pray and share our burden. Having someone to talk to helps to clear our minds and keep our perspective. A close relationship with our fellow believers in Christ is needed so we will not be afraid to share our needs with them.

Some people think that Christians should always be above their problems and never get upset or discouraged. If we just had enough faith, or enough love, or enough of some other Christian grace, we could take everything in stride — so we think. Being a Christian doesn't eliminate trouble and heartache. There can't be any victory over them without a battle first. We may be nearly overwhelmed, but through Christ we can obtain strength to face our difficulties. It helps, too, to have friends who care and pray and ask the Lord to give us the victory we need.

"The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary." Isa. 50:4a. People do get weary. That is the time for love, compassion and a few words of encouragement. When assurance of your love and concern is needed, why try to give anything less? Saying things like "I guess we all feel like that at times" is like telling a drowning man "It's okay, other people drown, too." Neither statement is helpful or consoling. It hardly makes sense either to talk about the weather and such like when someone's heart is breaking.

A drowning man is not consoled by knowing that he's not the first to experience this. What he wants is to be rescued and he will cling to anything which gives him assurance that he is being rescued. Just muttering a few words to him is not enough. It takes action and contact to help him. Someone drowning in distress needs your assurance, too, that help is on the way. Take time to write or phone or make a personal visit and give assurance of your love and concern and prayers. A lack of contact causes more distress, but knowing that someone cares helps to bring peace and comfort, so reach out to the one who needs you. Do it now.

A person in trouble may have difficulty expressing his need and you may have to pay close attention to discover it. A drowning person never says, "Please get me out of this water." He merely cries, "Help!" If the situation is too desperate, he can't even do that. He just thrashes around helplessly. It takes time and effort to see the real need and to show that you care. The help that you give may not seem like much, but it is needed. There are times when we all just need someone to care, so do what you can. Be the one who cares.

We are told to praise the Lord, to trust Him, to thank Him when we're down. This is fine, and it does help when we can thank the Lord, but can a drowning person praise the Lord right at that moment? When we are panic-stricken, reactions aren't normal and we can't do much of anything like we should. People disoriented by drugs have drowned in a shower, because they didn't know which way was up. Our heartaches can disorient us spiritually at times so we don't know which way is up. When we've lost our perspective, we need help; just being thankful that it's not worse won't rid us of our distress.

Some people are so unused to having someone to care that they hide what's really bothering them. It will take extra time, patience and love from you to draw him or her out. Does your attitude convey to others that you really care, so they will be more comfortable about expressing their needs? Once the need is expressed, give it special care, for special needs require your special prayer and attention, not just the "general maintenance" type.

"I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul." Psa. 142:4. That must have been the heart-breaking thoughts of the man who was beaten, robbed and left half dead on the road to Jericho. But someone did care. When the Samaritan saw the need, he did what he could to help. He couldn't do it all, so he got someone else to help also. When you see someone in distress, be the one who cares. Don't pass by on the other side.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

DEAR DISCOURAGED FRIEND

I thought I would choose a poem of Helen Steiner Rice to send your way today.

WHAT MORE CAN YOU ASK

God's love endureth forever --
What a wonderful thing to know
When the tides of life run against you

And your spirit is downcast and low....
God's kindness is ever around you,
Always ready to freely impart
Strength to your faltering spirit,
Cheer to your lonely heart....
God's presence is ever beside you,
As near as the reach of your hand,
You have but to tell Him your troubles,
There is nothing He won't understand....
And knowing God's love is unfailing,
And His mercy unending and great,
You have but to trust in His promise--
"God comes not too soon or too late"....
So wait with a heart that is patient
For the goodness of God to prevail--
For never do prayers go unanswered,
And His mercy and love never fail.

I think of you often and pray that God will fulfill all your needs, heal your broken heart and lift your spirits so you can be yourself, happy and cheerful once more.

I know thoughts go through your mind and questions too, so thought I would spend some time writing to you and helping you if I can.

Question: "What is there to live for?" "Seems like I cannot do anything right, which ever way I step there are always cracks and gullies to cross!" Well, maybe there is, but there are lots of things I know you do, do right and yet, you do have something to live for. Live for God, for your family, for taking the correct stand in the Church. Philippians 1:21 says, "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain."

Question: Why do I have to go to church? To read, study and hear God's Word. "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil." Eccl. 5:1.

The Church is our foundation on which to build. When we go to church, God is there. Ephesians 5:24 tells us, "The church is subject unto Christ." Therefore I believe messages will be sent from God to the speaker. But I do not believe sermons are of God when the message is quoted word for word from what someone else has written such as in the backs of some Bibles and Commentaries. We should try to get a message out of what is being said, even if it is only one sentence that we take home to help us through our walk of life here on earth.

Question: Why do so-called Christians always try to pick a person apart? Maybe something we heard is traveling fast, but

wait!.... Just because someone tells us of somebody's shortcomings, we should keep it to ourselves, till we know for sure if it would be best to even publish it. James 1:19 says, "Wherefore my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath. For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

Some want a perfect church, but I heard a beloved minister of the gospel preach at our revival several years ago, who said, "If there was a perfect church, I would not be in your midst." People should realize that we are humans just like themselves and forgive and forget. Build up the church instead of tearing it down. You know, dear friend, it is a puzzle to me how church members can put on happiness all year until the visit comes around then all the things come up that happened the first of the year or maybe a month ago, or maybe it only pertained to one member. Maybe God's spiritual checklist had better be gone over and maybe we had better read Matt. 18:15-20. The Word does not say to tell to the Church first. Well, what does it say?

Question: Why do so-called Christians like to live by the letter and not know the law? What good is the letter if there is no law? Down through the years our forefathers have not done everything to the letter. If you read history, some things have changed and just because they change, does not mean the Church is headed for Hell. Changes can be made for the good of our Church and it still can prosper and grow. "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; Who also hath made us able ministers of the New Testament, not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." II Cor. 3:5-6. It is not worth our life to argue all the time about minor things that could, and maybe should, be settled elsewhere than in the house of God. "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grevious words stir up anger." Prov. 15:1. "He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly." Prov. 14:29.

Question: Why then do some leave one denomination and move to another? Well, I really don't know for sure but I wonder; is it because there is no love shown Brother to Brother? Is it because no unity is felt as one? Why did the gap of division become bigger? Perhaps the light of the lighthouse has GONE OUT!

God knows all things and the Bible says, God will judge all people whether their deeds be good or evil. Remember, just because a Christian dresses plain for outward appearances does not mean that his heart is right with God. "Faith without works is dead."

So let's think of our own selves and check ourselves with God's

Word. If we check out with God's checklist then we can only pray that God will work through the other person.

I know that it is hard to take when others talk behind our backs and call us names to our faces, but do not fear, God will not judge us by what others do to us. We will only answer for our walk of life and how we lived here on this earth.

Lay all things aside a moment, ask God to carry you through, call a friend, write a letter, do something for a shut-in — sing and visit them. "God loveth a cheerful giver." It will uplift you spiritually and give you renewed strength and courage to face tomorrow.

So, dear friend, don't become so discouraged, God is still on the throne and will not let your burden be more than you can bear. Look to Him; trust Him!

I certainly hope, dear friend, that whoever reads this letter that I have written will benefit from it also, so they too can search their lives and make a few changes.

May God bless you till we meet again.

Sister Shirley Frick

MARANATHA

"If any many love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha." I Corinthians 16:22.

It was customary in the days of Paul for a secretary to do the letter writing. At the end of the letter, the writer took the pen and added a more personal note, ending it with the signing of his name. This verse, though just a part of his salutation, contains two very important words. The first, "Anathema," meant accursed. The second, the one we want to deal with, deals with the Lord. The meaning is three-fold, in other words, it can be stated three ways. First, it can be interpreted, "THE LORD HAS COME:" a truly wonderful way to greet a fellow believer. As a matter of fact, "maranatha" was the Christian greeting of those days. The second way it is interpreted is "THE LORD IS PRESENT," or "THE LORD IS WATCHING." This could be the interpretation in the context of the verse. If you don't love Christ, you are cursed because He is watching. It also proves to be a reminder of God's presence always. He knows all and He is in control of every situation. The last way to say "maranatha" in our language is "THE LORD IS COMING AGAIN." Praise God, He is coming to take His Bride Home to be with Him. He also is coming to judge the sinner. So Paul, in effect, is saying if you do not love Christ you are going to be judged at His return. May God help us to see the importance of "MARANATHA" and be able to greet our Christian friends with it, wherever we go.

Brother Lynn H. Miller

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

GIVING TO JESUS

Matt. 14:13-21, Mark 26:30-44, Luke 9:10-17, John 6:1-14

One time Jesus and His disciples went across the Sea of Galilee and a wonderful thing happened. Jesus had been so busy healing people and talking to them that He didn't have time to eat. Jesus and His disciples went by boat and when they came to land it was a desert place. The people saw them go and were determined to follow Jesus. I think most of them went by land around the north end of the Sea of Galilee. As they came to different villages and towns, others came along and soon there was a great multitude waiting to see Jesus.

The day was nearly gone and the people had been so anxious to see Jesus that they had forgotten to bring anything along to eat. In all that crowd there was only one who had brought his lunch. He was a young boy who had five loaves of bread and two small fish. The loaves of bread they baked in that time were round and flat like a large cookie. The disciples asked Jesus to send the people away so that they could go into the towns around them to buy food to eat but Jesus said, "Give them something to eat!" Andrew, one of the disciples said, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two small fishes but what are they among so many." There were five thousand men besides women and children. How, indeed, could that boy's lunch feed so many people? Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." And they sat down by hundreds and fifties.

I suppose the boy was glad to give Jesus his lunch. Maybe he thought that Jesus needed something to eat if anyone did. I think he was standing right beside Jesus. Jesus took the boy's lunch and gave thanks to His Heavenly Father for the food that had been so generously given Him.

The boy looked up to see Jesus eat and what do you think Jesus did? He was breaking the bread and giving it and the fish to His disciples. The disciples were carrying bread and fish to the people and then coming back for more. It was unbelievable! Jesus didn't run out of bread and fish. He just kept giving and there was always some left. The boy got some too because the Bible says that they did all eat and were filled. Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost." There weren't only five loaves and two fishes left but twelve basketsful!

Where do you think Jesus got all that food? To feed so many people would have taken a big truck-load — maybe more. If Jesus could heal the sick and raise the dead, He could provide food for a million people if He wanted to.

I wish I could have talked to that boy who gave Jesus his lunch. He gave Jesus all that he had and look what happened. What that boy gave Jesus was given back, besides helping many others. When we give to Jesus He will always bless us. How can we give to Jesus? Jesus says, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." We can give to Jesus by helping others.

Brother Rudy Cover

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Part 14

The Fifth Dispensation Continued

Israel's condition, at the time of their last king, was very serious. Zedekiah was a very wicked king. All the chief priests and the people of Israel, "...transgressed very much after all the abominations of the heathen; and polluted the house of the Lord (built by Solomon) which he had hallowed in Jerusalem."

Because of this, "...The Lord God of their fathers sent to them by messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against his people, till there was no remedy." II Chron. 36:15-16. This caused the Lord to bring destruction upon Israel. There was a great slaughter of them by the king of the Chaldees. He had no "...compassion upon young man, or maiden, old man or him that stooped for age..." verse 17.

The king utterly spoiled Israel, taking the spoil to Babylon. He burnt also the house of God, brake down the walls of Jerusalem, burnt the palaces with fire, and destroyed all the goodly vessels thereof. All that "...escaped from the sword carried he away to Babylon; where they were servants, ...until the reign of the kingdom of Persia." "To fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate she kept sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years." Verse 21.

Jeremiah also speaks of this in Jer. 1:1-3. God had warned Israel, long before this, that they would be scattered. Levit. 26:33-34. "And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste. Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths, as long as it lieth desolate, and ye be in your enemies' land; even then shall the land rest, and enjoy her sabbaths." A comparison of this text with the one above taken from Chronicles shows that God's Word came to pass, while

Israel was in Babylon, and does not refer to the future time, when they were scattered after the overthrow of Jerusalem by Titus in 70 A.D.

Hence, we find that the Jews were scattered among the nations. That is those who did not return with the two colonies to Jerusalem, with Zerubbabel and Ezra for the purpose of rebuilding the Temple and walls of Jerusalem. So, we see, that their regathering at that time, was not the time when God would set forth His hand the second time to bring them back.

At this point, let us notice the condition of the children of Israel, while in Babylon. This condition is pictured in Jeremiah 25:8-11, "Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Because ye have not heard my words, Behold I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the Lord, and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations. Moreover, I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the candle. And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years."

Our God is a God of truth. His Word shall not fail, it is "settled in Heaven." Therefore if this above prophecy hasn't been fulfilled in the past, we can rest assured it will be fulfilled to the letter in the future. We learn from this that Israel served the king of Babylon seventy years.

Daniel also speaks of this in Dan. 9:1-2, "In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolation of Jerusalem." However, it seems to have been God's purpose that the walls of Jerusalem should be built at the Reformation, so He speaks by the word of His prophet Isaiah, Isa. 44:28, "That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid."

Now let us note the proclamation of King Cyrus. II Chron. 36:22-23, "Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord spoken by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing,

saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the Lord God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah, Who is there among you of all his people? The Lord his God be with him, and let him go up." Jeremiah give his prophecy as we have quoted above and Daniel refers to it, in approximately 606 B.C. Seventy years later, Ezra's book with this proclamation was written, or in approximately 536 B.C., Ezra 1:1

— To be continued
Brother William Root

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

He guides my feet by day.
  He guards my bed at night.
And when blindly faltering in my step,
  He is my lamp — my ever-lasting light.

Oh, Christ — who was my Shepherd
  Even before my soul was saved.
He searched me out and found me
  When from the flock I'd strayed.

He listens to my every plea —
  And whether He says yes or no
Just talking with Him
  Satisfies my wondering soul.

When my strength is gone
  And I thru the valley walk
I know He'll meet me on the other side
  And He will make me whole.

He will still my Shepherd be
  And He will share in Eternity
His wondrous glory with me.

Won't you let my Shepherd
  Be your Shepherd too?
We've been such friends here on earth.
  Heaven will the sweeter be
If you too will be there
  To share the glory with me.

- Ruth Spotts
Brethren Home, Greenville, Ohio

NEWS ITEMS

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation looks forward to a two weeks revival beginning March 16, the Lord willing. Bro. Jacob Ness, of York, Pennsylvania will be our evangelist. The meeting will close March 30 with Lovefeast services beginning March 29. Services Saturday, forenoon at 11 o'clock, afternoon, 2 o'clock and Communion Service Saturday evening. Services on Sunday.

Come enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhen, Cor.

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

And the angel answered and said unto the woman, "Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." Matthew 28:5-6.

Please come be with us at Dallas Center, Iowa as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. We plan a Lovefeast at 7:30 P.M., April 5, 1980. The services of the day will begin at 10:45 A.M. We plan all day services on Easter Sunday, April 6, "the first day of the week."

We invite you to worship with us at this blessed season!

Sister Juanita Reed, Cor.

HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

Twenty-three members from Pennsylvania, Ohio and Mississippi gathered at the home of Bro. and Sis. Jacob Gibble, February 9, for a Lovefeast service. Elders Paul R. Myers and David Ebling ministered to those assembled.

Brother J. F. Marks

NOTICE

The Bible Study Board is having new Bible Study books printed for use in Primary and Intermediate Sunday School classes. We will send books for the use of teachers and asst. teachers.

Please send orders to: William Carpenter
8012 Cavender St.
Morenci, Mich. 49256

EXPLANATION

There have been questions concerning the author and source of the article "Why I Love My Church" which appeared in the January 1, 1980 issue. This article was written as a tract before 1900 by Wilbur B. Stover. The beliefs and practices held forth by the writer are those of the Dunkard Brethren Church today.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR APRIL

April 6 — THE RESURRECTION. Luke 24:1-35.
April 13 — The Parable of the Sower. Luke 8:1-18.
April 20 — Jesus Stills the Tempest; The Man in the Tombs. Luke 8:19-40.
April 27 — "Somebody Touched Me": The Daughter of Jairus. Luke 8:41-56.

QUESTIONS:

(1) Why do you think the Angel rolled the stone away from the sepulchre? Matt. 28:2-6.
(2) Which was the best place for the seed (the word of God) to fall? What is the good ground? Luke 8:15.
(3) Why did the disciples think it strange that Jesus could still the storm? Luke 8:25.
(4) Would the woman have been healed if she had not touched the hem of His garment? Mark 5:28; Luke 8:47.
(5) Why do you think Jesus said, "She is not dead, but sleepeth."? Luke 9:52-54, John 11:11-14.

The light of the Gospel illuminates a Christian. We don't need drugs or alcohol to light us up and make us happy. Believers are the children of light, not of darkness. Darkness blinds people, and is like a binding chain. If we don't accept the light of salvation, there is no escape from the darkness of sin.

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

Christ is to be in us, to have the preeminence (be first) in our lives. We are to be partakers of His divine nature, to be "filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;" Col. 1:9. Man is a living soul; we can give our souls away and the wise thing is to give it to Christ. When He is in us, then our treasure will be in Heaven.

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR APRIL, 1980

DELIVERANCE

Memory Verse: Acts 7:34
I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send thee into Egypt.

Tues. 1 - Acts 7:20-40
Wed. 2 - Acts 7:41-60
Thur. 3 - Acts 12:1-25
Fri. 4 - Acts 15:22-41
Sat. 5 - Acts 16:1-18

Memory Verse: Math. 28:7
And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

Sun. 6 - Math. 28:1-20
Mon. 7 - Acts 16:19-40
Tues. 8 - Acts 21:1-19
Wed. 9 - Acts 21:20-40
Thur. 10 - Acts 22:1-30
Fri. 11 - Acts 23:1-15
Sat. 12 - Acts 23:16-35

Memory Verse: Acts 16:4
And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem.

Sun. 13 - Acts 25:1-27
Mon. 14 - Acts 26:1-18
Tues. 15 - Acts 26:19-32
Wed. 16 - Acts 27:1-20
Thur. 17 - Acts 27:21-44
Fri. 18 - Acts 28:1-16
Sat. 19 - Acts 28:17-31

Memory Verse: Rom. 4:23-25
Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification.

Sun. 20 - Rom. 4:1-25
Mon. 21 - Rom. 6:1-23
Tues. 22 - Rom. 7:1-25
Wed. 23 - Rom. 8:1-21
Thur. 24 - Rom. 8:22-39
Fri. 25 - Rom. 11:1-18
Sat. 26 - Rom. 11:19-36

Memory Verse: Rom. 6:17
But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

Sun. 27 - Rom. 15:13-33
Mon. 28 - I Cor. 5:1-13
Tues. 29 - I Cor. 11:1-16
Wed. 30 - I Cor. 11:17-34

Memory Verses: Rom. 8:21
Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Rom. 8:32
He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII APRIL 1, 1980 NO. 7

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THE CROSS WAS HIS OWN

They borrowed a bed to lay His head
When Christ the Lord came down;
They borrowed the ass in the mountain pass
For Him to ride to town;
But the crown that He wore
and the cross that He bore
Were His own —
The cross was His own.

He borrowed the bread when the crowd He fed
On the grassy mountainside;
He borrowed the dish of broken fish
With which He satisfied;
But the crown that He wore
and the cross that He bore
Were His own —
The cross was His own.

He borrowed the ship in which to sit
To teach the multitude;
He borrowed a nest in which to rest;
He had never a home so rude;
But the crown that he wore
and the cross that He bore
Were His own —
The cross was His own.

He borrowed a room on His way to the tomb,
The Passover lamb to eat;
They borrowed a cave for Him a grave,
They borrowed a winding sheet;
But the crown that He wore
and the cross that He bore
Were His own —
The cross was His own.

Selected by Sister Martha Shaffer

MYTHS AND REALITY

At this season, we note the Resurrection of our Saviour. By this miraculous act, we know that the price paid for our redemption was accepted by God. Because He was victorious, we can have victory in this life and glory beyond. Because He resurrected, we can have a new life as the sons and daughters of God.

Despite the power exhibited in His resurrection and the physical evidences of His resurrection, many speak of His resurrection as a myth. Because of the blindness of their Spiritual eyes and their inability to receive and believe the truth, they either ignore or deny it. Truth is not established by majority opinion, so the fact of His Resurrection is not refuted by those who disbelieve. At the time of His resurrection, the Pharisees were so intent on denying it that they bribed the soldiers who had guarded His grave and protected them from punishment by their superiors. The myth they invented to deny His resurrection was that His disciples came at night to steal away His body. This myth has been accepted by many since, although it was the invention of a small band of desperate, immoral and rejected religious leaders. They had done their utmost to be rid of this Jesus, but even that was not enough. This and many other myths concerning His resurrection can not stand the test of solid reasoning.

At the time of Jesus' ministry, mythology was the religion of most nations. The Greeks and the Romans had a highly developed system of gods and goddesses. They had developed very detailed stories concerning the creation and sustaining of the world and the work of all these beings. Their gods offered no holy example of righteous living but rather exemplified the base passions and

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sensualities of the men, who had developed the myths. The attributes of these gods were no higher than those of mankind. Jealousy, revenge and destruction were often these god's attributes.

Although this mythology presented a form of religion with its sacrifices and festivals, it was far removed from the reality of the God of Heaven. The mythology of that day was as far removed from reality as the myth fabricated by the Pharisees to explain away His resurrection.

The religion of the Greeks and Romans is today recognized as mythology. In our day of education, it is wondered how people could ever have believed such tales. Some have even grown so wise in their own understanding that they have classified the Bible and Christianity as mythology.

While these "wise men" have laughed at the utter worthlessness of the mythology of old, have they not believed a modern version of that mythology? The myths of old were separated from the reality of the True and Living God. Today's myths are similiarly separated from that reality. Today's most prevalent myth is the philosophy called humanism. Humanism should never be confused with humanitarianism, which is doing good to a fellow human. Humanism is a philosophy that exalts man. Man has become his own god. He does as he pleases, he serves no one but self, he seeks pleasure and sensuality. This philosophy is a myth because it ignores the reality of God, His love for man and His perfect standard of righteousness. Humanism, like the myths of old, does not provide a righteous standard by which man may examine himself and improve himself by following its example. Humanism is relative, so right is only what feels good or seems right at that particular time but shifts with circumstances. Man by his training and senses takes the place of God in determining what is right. The rule of humanism is very strong today just as the old mythology ruled in its day. The effect of this philosophy can be seen in the teaching in the schools, in the laws drafted by the politicians and in the immorality that is rampant among all ages and classes of people.

The most alarming appearance of humanism is in the churches. This philosophy is taught in churches, though perhaps modified by lipservice paid to certain phrases or ideas. The view has come into the Church that all conditions and degrees of living must be accepted. It is today's myth that the Church must not exercise her disciplining power, that she must not set an absolute standard. While love is a necessary ingredient in the Church, true love does not let down the bars to allow her members to continue in the broad way that leads to destruction. Her love restrains, that they

might have eternal life. The Church of the Real God of Heaven dare not have a part in the mythology of this sinful world.

Are you building upon reality or upon a myth? Remember, the reality you need most is God, His love, His Resurrected Son and His righteous standard.

IT IS FINISHED

"When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head and gave up the ghost." John 19:30. Jesus had finished the work He came to earth to do (see John 17:4). He came to fulfill the law. (Matt. 20:28), to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10), and to give us abundant life (John 10:10). Jesus had completed everything up to giving His life for us and now the time had come for Him to die on the Cross to redeem us.

Why did Jesus have to die? He is God's Son; He is perfect. So, why Him, when He hadn't done anything wrong? We had to have a redeemer to reconcile us to God, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23. Without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of our sin (Heb. 9:22). Not only is the shedding of blood necessary, but the sacrifice had to be sinfree. Only Christ could meet that qualification. "In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." Col. 1:14. The blood of animals can not take away sin, but Christ's blood can.

Jesus is our only means of reconciliation to God. "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ." II Cor. 5:18a. It is only through Christ that we have access to God. In talking about Christ, Peter said, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. Jesus said, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved." John 10:9a. No matter what you may do, no matter how good you may be, you can't redeem yourself.

"And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the Scriptures, Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ." Acts 17:2-3. There is only one Messiah, this Jesus. So, everyone accepted Him right away; right? Wrong! "He came unto his own, and his own received him not." John 1:11. The Jews rejected Christ and His salvation. If you reject Him, you will be as lost as they, because there is no other way to be saved.

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection; and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25. "Who (Jesus) was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification." Rom. 4:25. Jesus died for us and resurrected, making it possible for us to live also. Jesus completed the plan of salvation; we need to accept it in whole-hearted faith. We don't work for our redemption. Believe in Him with all your heart if you want a new life in Christ.

"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." John 20:31. "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." John 14:13. We believe in Christ to have life, we pray in His name both to the Father's glory for our joy. "Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." John 16:24b. Christ made our contract with God complete; He didn't leave anything unfinished.

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." John 3:14-17. God's part of the plan of salvation has already been finished — have you done your part and believed that Jesus saves?

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

WE CAN DO IT

In Numbers 13 and 14, we have the account of the spying out of the land of Canaan, which the Lord had promised to the children of Israel. Israel's life to this point had been one of bondage in Egypt, hardships and disappointments in a barren desert. God had a better land for them and He wanted them to have it, but they would have to trust God and do their part to obtain this new land.

As the spies came back from spying out the land (13:25) they reported that it was a good land (27) but that there were hardships involved in obtaining this land (28-29). Notice that looking at the obstacles takes two verses compared to only one for the benefits. Then in verse 30, faithful Caleb says, "We can do it." The ten doubters in verses 31-33, cry, "We can't, we are not strong enough, the enemy is too great, we will lose and be defeated, we don't want to try." As we read in chapter 14, we find that this attitude caused

much sorrow, confusion and disappointment. Many wanted to return to Egypt (14:4) and the old bondage, rather than press on. Then we find faithful Joshua (8-9) proclaiming that God will help them and that their enemies will be bread for them. "Only rebel ye not against the Lord."

Now think of it this way. Your life has been a life of bondage. Drugs, alcohol and rock music have left you wandering in a desert of sorrow, disappointment, hardship, misery and discouragement. God says to you, "I have a better life for you, but I want you to see for yourself. So go ahead, search it out, see for yourself, judge for yourself, make up your own mind." You look at the Christian life, the Bible way, and you honestly say, "Yes, it is much better than what I have experienced, but there are many hard things to face to obtain this promise of God, like discipline, sacrifice, obedience and self denial."

Right now is the time to cut off these words, as Caleb did, and say, "We be able." When doubting thoughts rush into the mind, we should look to Joshua and hear him say, "God delights in us, and wants us to have this new life, only rebel ye not against the Lord, for these doubting thoughts be bread for us."

Now bread is for strengthening the body. Every time you meet one of these enemies of doubt and discipline yourself, face it head on, and whisper a little prayer to God to help you. You will be strengthened and better able to meet the next temptation. But if you turn and run away from what God has put before you to strengthen you, you will get weaker and weaker. Philippians 4:13, "I CAN DO all things THROUGH CHRIST WHICH strengtheneth me." In this verse, the word "which" rather than "who" refers to the exercise of doing. So we see that through Christ and exercising my will to conform with the will of God, I will be strengthened in faith to inherit the promise of God.

"Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it." Hebrews 4:1. "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief." Hebrews 4:11.

In Christian Love,
Brother Berton Smith

• • • ● • • •

EMBLEMS OF THE RESURRECTION—God has filled all Nature with continual emblems of this doctrine. What is night but the death of day? What is morning but its resurrection from the shades of darkness? We see the insect-tribe give their evidence — sometimes crawling, as a worm, then lying in apparent torpor; then bursting the shell, and, with wings of beauty and activity, skimming the atmosphere.

THE OPPOSED, SUFFERING AND RESURRECTED SAVIOR

We are again approaching the time of the year, when we will commemorate the great victory of the Savior of the world over death and the grave.

Soon after He came to earth He was opposed by a wicked king who wanted to destroy Him. Through God's plan He was protected to fulfill the plan of salvation for the redemption of fallen humanity from sin. Though doing the will of God, He was opposed by many. He brought goodwill to mankind, did many good deeds and performed many miracles. Yet, many people did not hesitate to raise words of opposition against Him.

In spite of all the good He did, He had many enemies. His coming was prophesied long before it came into fulfillment. He foretold His death and resurrection. "He came unto his own, and his own received him not." We think of the opposition against our victorious Savior who suffered the cruel death on the cross for our redemption. It is a blessing for all who accept the plan of salvation.

When Christ was here in person, He was a blessing to mankind, performing many miracles, healing the sick, bringing sight to the blind and life to the dead. His mission brought spiritual light and life to a world of sin and darkness. Through Him we can have spiritual life in abundance. He rebuked those who failed to accept the way of truth and righteousness. We must be grafted into the true vine for a glorious resurrection. We have the record of many of the true soldiers of the cross who met severe hardships and sufferings and were victorious over death and the grave.

It was a dreadful scene. A perfect, innocent person as a captive prisoner had to go on trial because of their evil, hateful hearts. He stood trial and was found innocent with no fault in Him. The Record tells us they mocked Him, put a crown of thorns upon His head, blindfolded His eyes, spit upon Him and struck Him with their hands. After all this happened the terrible enemies of Christ persuaded the soldiers to deceive the people concerning the truth of the disappearance of Christ's body. He has risen from the grave and lives forever with His saints to reign. Through His glorious resurrection, we likewise can be resurrected unto glory. Christ's suffering was the just for the unjust to bring us unto God.

Today many are suffering because of living in sin. It has its rewards. We should never become discouraged because of being opposed for yielding to truth and righteousness. Christ was without sin, yet He was accused of many defaming things, keeping bad company, breaking the Sabbath, gluttony, intemperance, insanity,

blasphemy, treason and classed with devils. All the evil spoken against Him did not hinder Him from the glorious resurrection.

The Apostle Paul wept because some who claimed to be Christ's followers were in reality His enemies. Those who opposed the way of truth and righteousness are crucifying Christ afresh and putting Him to an open shame. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." I Pet. 1:3. Are we grateful enough that through Christ the way is open for us to be resurrected unto glory? There is no salvation without peace with God. The Apostle Paul says as far as possible to live at peace with all men. A great reward is promised to those who are persecuted for righteousness sake. "And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5:29.

The Apostle Paul was willing to suffer for the cause of Christ, spreading the gospel He looked forward to the great crown of righteousness laid up for the faithful. This may have given him a great determination to go forward through the hardships in his pathway. He said that we see through a glass darkly but some day we would see him face to face.

There is a great difference between the Christian spirit and the evil spirit. When Christ came to earth there was no room for Him in the inn. Today, no room in lives filled with sin. The prince of justice and peace is coming to earth again "to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him." Jude 15.

Do we stand for truth and righteousness and oppose all falsehood and deceitfulness? Shortly before Christ made His last appearance, He gave His disciples the message, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." The promise comes with the teaching and observing of all the things that we are commanded to do. No sin will enter the Eternal City. Are we prepared for the place where the victorious Saviour is?

Brother J. F. Marks
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THE HOLY KISS

The Bible records various forms of salutation or greeting that mankind has used. From the most ancient times the kiss, a touch of the lips, has been a token of peace and love. It is a means by which the tender impulse or emotion of love can be interchanged. As Christ took the common juice of the vine and sanctified it to the sublime use as a symbol of His own blood shed for the remission of sins, He has also through His apostles sanctified the kiss to express the holy love which exists between the members of His body. See Rom. 16:16; I Cor. 16:20; II Cor. 13:12; I Thess. 5:26; I Pet. 5:14.

No ordinance of God commanded to be observed in His church is stated in the New Testament in any plainer terms or with more authority than that of this christian greeting, termed an Holy Kiss or a Kiss of Charity. It is a greeting of love and fellowship distinctly commanded to be extended to one another and to all the brethren.

All that is consecrated or commanded for the Lord's service is holy and this command is also given to "holy brethren" (I Thess. 5:26-27), and for an holy purpose — that it might symbolize that fervent love that members of the body of Christ are to have for each other. (John 15:12-13; I John 4:11). Therefore it is a Holy Kiss. The attribute holy lifts it above mere human friendship or fellowship; it links it to that which is sacred and divine. It lifts it to the realm of eternal love and fellowship. As the kiss is a binding pledge in earthly ties, so the Holy Kiss is a binding pledge in heavenly ties, binding believers in Christ together with the cords of sweet and holy union, making them strong in brotherly love and christian affection; and is a visible mark of that city set upon an hill which cannot be hid.

The Holy Kiss, a spontaneous christian greeting, was practiced in the apostolic church as evidenced by Acts 20:37. In his description of the worship service of the christians of the second century, Justin Martyr reported that the kiss was regularily used. The Apostolic Constitutions state: "Then let the men apart, and the women apart, salute each other with a kiss in the Lord." Cyprian reported that the one baptizing a convert, as well as the entire church, greeted the newly baptized with the holy kiss. The evidence is clear that the kiss was uniformly used at both baptism and communion in the early church. Dr. Schaff in his church history, Vol. 2, p. 237 says, "the kiss as a symbol of love and peace, was continued at love-feasts or communion services until the end of the thirteenth century."

In seeking to translate the New Testament scriptures into daily

life, in harmony with apostolic church usage, the early brethren practiced the holy kiss within their fellowship as their mode of greeting, yet they denied it to those who because of sin had been excommunicated.

Brethren greet the brethren and sisters the sisters with hand and kiss, the opposite sex is greeted with the right hand of fellowship. It is observed upon meeting and parting, in the home, when meeting at public worship, and so forth, newly baptized members are greeted by the church in this way when coming out of the water, deacons and ministers with their companions are received by the church in this way when installed into office, and fallen members who repent are thus restored.

When a member washes and wipes another's feet he or she immediately gives the right hand accompanied with the salutation of the holy kiss. After the Lord's supper has been partaken of and before communion, every member is thus greeted with hand and kiss, binding all together in a holy union of love as members are in solemn contemplation of the suffering love of their crucified Lord. The holy kiss when thus observed signifies that their love and care for each other shall have no end — a type of the love and union the ransomed of the Lord will enjoy in the future kingdom.

Since God has chosen the Holy Kiss as the form of greeting appropriate to His people, it becomes the duty of His children to use that salutation with the design and purpose for which it was given. When this is done, it not only expresses the love of holy brethren one for another, it also serves to increase that love. It dare never become a cold, indifferent, offensive or formal kiss; it is a sacred ordinance to be kept as the true expression of our unfeigned love of the brethren (I Pet. 1:22).

From a Treatise by
Herman Shuman, Pendleton, Ind.
Prepared for inclusion in
The Brethren Encyclopedia

HOW BIG IS YOUR CHURCH?

The church is as tall as its tallest people,
No matter how high or expensive its steeple.
Each church is as tall as the dreams it dreams,
As the goal it accepts and the pledge it redeems.
The church is as great as its greatest insight,
As grand as its zeal to make the world right.
Each church is as great as the thoughts it thinks,
As deep as the fount from which it drinks.

- Author Unknown
Selected by
Sister Delores Stuber

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from March 15, 1980 Issue

Ezra was a Jewish exile in Babylon of priestly descent. Let us note the contents of the book of Ezra, briefly. The return of the first colony of the Jews from their captivity in Babylon, the rebuilding of the temple and the inauguration of social and religious reforms. The return of this first colony was under the leadership of Zerubbabel. Let us note their building enterprises. After the temple was finished, we read of the return of the second colony under Ezra, and of his literary and religious work.

The book of Nehemiah gives the rebuilding of the walls of the city of Jerusalem. Israel's condition was sinful, yet God did not forsake them. Nehemiah gives the account of the Levites making confession of their wickedness. Neh. 9:28-29, "But after they had rest, they did evil again before thee: therefore leftest thou them in the hand of their enemies, so that they had the dominion over them: yet when they returned, and cried unto thee, thou heardest them from heaven; and many times didst thou deliver them according to thy mercies; And testifiedst against them, that thou mightest bring them again unto thy law: yet they dealt proudly, and hearkened not unto thy commandments, but sinned against thy judgments; (which if a man do, he shall live in them;) and withdrew the shoulder, and hardened their neck, and would not hear."

This is open confession of their sins. Let us read on to get their full confession and covenant. "Yet many years didst thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them by thy spirit in thy prophets: yet would they not give ear: therefore gavest thou them into the hand of the people of the lands. Nevertheless for thy great mercies' sake thou didst not utterly consume them, nor forsake them; for thou art a gracious and merciful God. Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the terrible God, who keepst covenant and mercy, let not all the trouble seem little before thee, that hath come upon us, on our kings, on our princes, and on our priests, and on our prophets, and on our fathers, and on all thy people, since the time of the kings of Assyria unto this day. Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly: Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law, nor harkened unto thy commandments and thy testimonies, wherewith thou didst testify against them." Neh. 9:30-34.

Now let us notice their failure, in demanding a king to be like other Nations. Verses 35-38, "For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou gavest them, and in

the large and fat land which thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works. Behold, we are servants this day, and for the land that thou gavest unto our fathers to eat the fruit thereof and the good thereof, behold, we are servants in it: And it yieldeth much increase unto the kings whom thou hast set over us because of our sins: also they have dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure, and we are in great distress. And because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, seal unto it."

We have brought the reader, in our discussion of the "Fifth Dispensation of man on the earth, to the time when the commandment went forth to restore and to rebuild Jerusalem given by King Cyrus. This was revealed to Daniel in Dan. 9:23-25.

At this point let us notice the Jews as a race or nationality of people. Jesus, said, to the women at the well of Samaria, concerning them, John 4:22, "Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews." What did Jesus mean by those words? We will discuss them in our next article.

Brother William Root

BLACK WIDOW SPIDER

Monday morning, David took me to Torreon Clinic for medical help. I had an ugly, red, swollen spot on my leg which grew to be seven inches long.

The doctor said it was from a black widow spider. I was very surprised as their bite has been known to kill people, but here I was on the examining table at the clinic. I had been spared!

I did not see the spider but she found me. (The females do the biting.) I've never seen one on the loose here. Their habitat is in the southern United States and Pacific Coast.

Everybody that looks at my bite are astonished. One little school girl returned to school saying, "Mildred bit a black widow spider!"

How right for this insect to be black! We think of sin as black, darkness, destitute of light.

If you see a black widow spider, kill it, run, burn it — depending on your age and circumstance. But whatever you do, get rid of it!

If the devil in any of his forms comes after you, don't let him touch you! Why? He is death! Black, ugly, tricky, sneaky, deceiving Satan — give him no room, no space, no time. Don't let him get any webs in your heart house. Nothing! No connections!

The encyclopedia says the black widow is one of the world's most dangerous spiders. Let me tell you — the devil IS the most dangerous thing in the world!

In Jesus' love,
Sister Mildred Skiles

THE CHRIST OF THE CALVARY ROAD

Do you know the Christ of the Calvary road?
He walked midst a jeering throng
With weary feet and drooping head,
For the Calvary road was long.
He had healed the sick, the lame, the blind,
With the touch of His gentle hand;
He had cleansed the lepers and raised the dead
Throughout His native land;
He came to save mankind from sin,
To lift their heavy load;
Yet they lead Him forth to be crucified—
The Christ of the Calvary road!
So you love the Christ of the Calvary road?
He pleads for your love today
As He calls you out from the careless crowds
That tread the worldly way.
They care not for the martyred One
Who longs their love to win;
They scorn His gift of eternal life
And choose the ways of sin.
Oh! the weight of sin is a heavy weight,
So let Him lift your load
While you give your life and love to Him—
The Christ of the Calvary road.
Will you serve the Christ of the Calvary road?
There are sorrowing hearts to cheer;
When you help to soothe the stricken ones,
The Christ of the cross is near;
There are sinning souls on life's long trail
That may to Him be led;
And over this sweetest ministry
His tenderest love is shed:
So walk with Him the way of the cross
While He helps to lift each load,
And lovingly serve the thorn-crowned One—
The Christ of the Calvary road.
O ye that tread the Calvary road,
In weariness and despair,
Neath the stress of grinding poverty
Or bowed with grief and care;
When earthly burdens seem too great.
When hope dies in your breast,
The One who trod the same hard road
Will give you peace and rest,

Your sorrows are His sorrows, too,
He bears with you each load;
You are loved with a love divine by Him—
The Christ of the Calvary road.

Selected by Sister E. M. Alltus

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

WALKING ON THE WATER

Matt. 14:22-23; Mark 6:45-52; John 6:15-21

Have you ever tried to walk on water? I mean deep water, like a river or a lake or the ocean. Water isn't solid. When you try to stand on water, you sink. We can get in a boat and not sink but walking on the water is altogether different. It just doesn't work.

Jesus fed the multitudes with bread and fish and they wanted to make Him a king. Jesus sent the people away and told His disciples to get into a boat and go to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. The Sea of Galilee is a big lake seven miles wide and thirteen miles long. While His disciples were going across the lake, Jesus went up into a mountain to pray.

The Sea of Galilee was a beautiful lake but sometimes the wind would blow causing big waves which made rowing a boat difficult. Such was the case with the disciples. The wind was blowing against them and they were rowing for all they were worth. It was early in the morning. They were about half way across the lake then they saw Jesus. He was walking on the water just as if He were on dry ground. The disciples couldn't believe their eyes. They were scared to death and cried out in fear. Then Jesus said to them, "Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid." Peter answered Jesus and said, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come unto you on the water." And Jesus said, "Come."

It is hard to believe anyone would ask to walk on water, especially at night when the wind was blowing and the waves were crashing against the boat, but Peter was an unusual man. He stepped right down out of the ship into the water and started walking toward Jesus. Peter was doing just fine; he didn't sink; he was walking on the water! How wonderful it was to be a personal friend of Jesus — one who could feed five thousand people from five loaves and two fishes — could heal the sick and even cause one to walk on the water. Just then a huge wave crashed in front of Peter and he forgot about Jesus and started worrying how he could possibly walk over that wave. Peter was afraid and he began to sink — there wasn't a thing he could do to help himself. Then Peter remembered Jesus and cried out, "Lord save me!"

Immediately Jesus stretched forth His hand and caught him and said, "O, you of little faith, why did you doubt?" Jesus and Peter walked together on the water over to the boat. When Peter and Jesus got in the boat the wind quit blowing and the sea was peaceful. Then the disciples who were in the boat came and worshipped Jesus, saying, "Of a truth you are the Son of God."

What a wonderful Saviour we have! Jesus can make you do the impossible but you must keep your mind on Him. When we forget Jesus and depend on our own strength — we will fail. Jesus said, "With God all things are possible." We can say like Peter, "Lord save me," and Jesus will always be there to help.

Brother Rudy Cover

NEWS ITEM

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The District Meeting of Third District will be held at Grandview, April 12, 13 and 14.

We will also hold our Spring Lovefeast and Communion at this time, instead of our regular set date. There will be services April 12 beginning at 11 o'clock, with Lovefeast and Communion services in the evening at 7:30. Also services all day on Sunday with District Meeting proper on Monday.

Come worship with us.

Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation plans a Spring Lovefeast, April 26, 1980. Services will begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday with the Lovefeast at 7:30 p.m. Services on Sunday.

We invite all, who can, to come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

LOVING THE UNSEEN

A mother had been talking to her little girl about loving God. The child replied: "Mother, I have never seen God; how can I love him?" Soon after she received a beautiful picture-book from a friend and exclaimed, "Oh, mother, I love the lady who sent me the book." "But, you never saw her," said the mother. "No," replied the child, "but I love her because she sent me this present." Let us look at the beautiful pictures in the book of nature all around us, and surely we will love God, the giver, though we have never seen Him.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII APRIL 15, 1980 NO. 8

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

A PRAYER OF SUBMISSION

I do not ask to go; I do not ask to stay;
I only ask that Thou, my Lord, shalt have Thy perfect way.
I do not ask to live; I do not ask to die;
I only ask to know Thy grace, and feel Thou art nigh.

I do not ask to preach; I do not ask to sing;
I only ask that I may know Thy will in everything.
I do not ask for ease, for wealth, for love or fame;
I only ask that I, my Lord, may breathe Thy sacred Name.

I do not seek success, save that which Thou dost lend;
I only seek to walk with Thee unto my journey's end.
My heart shall not repine in sunshine or in storm;
Thy presence turns my darkest hours from midnight into morn.

My soul is set on Thee; my heart would do Thy will;
So guide and lead me on, dear Lord, Thy purpose to fulfill.
Then use me when Thou wilt, and how Thou wilt and where;
And let me humbly serve Thee, Lord, and make my life a prayer.

— Selected

GOD'S HELPS

There are many pitfalls along the journey of life. The various adversities that affect us often discourage and dishearten us. Although it may be difficult at the time to see any benefit in these hardships, there is good to be found in these trials.

During these difficult times, the value of friendship, prayer and comfort is proven. At these times there is an outpouring of aid from neighbors, friends and even strangers. These expressions of care and concern restore the feeling that there still are some who care, when they have the opportunity. It is easy to become discouraged like Elijah. But God's message to Elijah was that there was still a remnant. Today there remains a remnant who will do good.

The journey of life involves more than the physical and financial areas of life. There is also a Spiritual part. Just as our natural life contains many pitfalls so does the Spiritual. As we need the help of our fellow journey-mates so we need the help of our fellow Christians. The Christian needs the help of God even more.

The wonderful thing about our need for God's help is that God anticipated that need and made the necessary provisions for us. God's help is always available. The affairs of our natural life may improve or worsen but these things do not affect our eternal destiny. The Spiritual condition of our lives affects whether our journey toward Heaven is successful or not. It behooves us to make use of the helps God has provided. If we do not avail ourselves of His helps, it will be our own fault that we fail to enjoy the advantages that God has intended for us to possess.

Among the helps designed for our good by God are those given

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in John 14. Jesus, in speaking to His soon-to-be-berift disciples, speaks to us as well. First, He encourages us to press toward that Heavenly Mansion that He is preparing. He would not prepare a place if there was no one who would be coming to occupy it. Not only is the place to be prepared but He has provided helps for us that we might be able to secure that home.

One help is love. Without God's love there would be no saving Gospel. But God does not stop there with love. He also gives us a way to demonstrate our love for Him, which is our obedience to His commandments. The commands He gives are for our benefit, that we might grow and prosper in the Christian life. Not only does He give us a way to display our love but He gives a blessing for our obedience. He promises that if a man will love Him and be obedient that He will abide with that man.

His abiding is through the person of the Holy Spirit. Jesus had been a comforter to His disciples during His ministry. Now, it was expedient for Him to return to the Father, so another Comforter, the Holy Spirit, could minister to a wider group than those Jesus was with physically. The Holy Spirit could abide with each believer. His work within each was to glorify, not Himself, but Jesus. This He would do through teaching and reminding the believer of the words of Jesus. He brings to mind the doctrines of God's Word, that we might live a life that would be profitable and pleasing in God's sight.

The work of the Spirit was beyond the knowledge and experience of the rejecting world. His work remains a mystery to the unbelieving world while His work is confirmed over and over in the mind and heart of the Christian. The Christian does not fully understand the work of the Holy Spirit but he accepts His guidance. While the Christian must be open to the helpful guidance of the Holy Spirit, he must also beware of other spirits which are not the Spirit of truth. Other spirits under the guise of religion and emotion would draw away the believer from the Father and Son. The Holy Spirit never teaches a doctrine contrary to the Bible.

Another help that comes through acceptance of the work of the Holy Spirit is peace. In a world of turmoil, nerves, anger and impatience, peace of mind is a rare quality. The peace of God is available to the Christian so the external affairs around him do not destroy his reliance upon God. If we accept the Spirit's work of glorifying Jesus and bringing His words and commands to us then we can have this peace. We can rely upon God for Jesus has promised, as only He can promise and fulfill.

Through love, the Holy Spirit, and peace, you can receive help in your journey toward Heaven. Are you willing to receive God's helps?

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

BREAD FROM HEAVEN

John 6:22-65

Does your mother ever bake bread? I can remember when my mother did. It smells so good. Fresh bread out of the oven tastes good, too. Almost everybody eats bread. There are many foods that we eat but bread is one food that's always there.

Jesus was teaching in Capernaum. The people had seen the disciples leave without Jesus. They didn't know that He had walked on the water. When they saw Jesus on the other side of the lake, they said, "Rabbi, (or teacher) when did you come here." Jesus said, "You seek me not because you saw the miracles but because you did eat of the loaves and were filled."

People are still about the same as they were when Jesus was here nearly two thousand years ago. It seems hard for people to see beyond the natural life. We work for the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the houses we live in, the cars we drive and so forth. The people asked Jesus, "What shall we do that we might work the works of God?" Jesus said, "This is the work of God, that you believe on Him whom God has sent."

The people said, "Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat." Jesus said, "My Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst... he that believeth on me hath everlasting life... I am that bread of life. This is the bread which came down from heaven; if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever."

Then the Jews wanted to know how they could eat this bread which Jesus said was Himself. Jesus answered, "...he that eateth me, even he shall live by me."

Jesus was teaching the people that there is something far more important than just the things that are for this life. He came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. If we do what Jesus says, He has promised us that we will live forever. Jesus says, "If you love me, keep my commandments." Jesus never gave us anything that we couldn't do or that He, Himself, didn't do.

Whether we go to school, work at a job, or take care of the home, we can live for Jesus. It's the everyday life that really counts. Most of us can be good people on Sunday or at Church, but it is during the week when we are apt to fail. We should always ask ourselves the question, "Would Jesus approve?" Jesus is the bread from heaven. We need to live by Him and for Him.

Brother Rudy Cover

ANGRY?

If you are angry, you may self-destruct! Take a moment and consider these examples. A businessman became so enraged when some boys messed up a flower bed at his business place, that he had a fatal heart attack. A young man became angry when refused service because he didn't observe the "shirt and shoes required" rule. He went out on the highway, drove like a maniac, finally crashing into a bridge and tree, thereby ending his life. Two other young men, both angry and one drunk also, were driving wildly and died when their cars hit trees. A golf course caretaker became very angry when someone tore up the greens with a car. His heart couldn't take it and he died also.

These five men, all local residents, died following violent fits of anger. No matter what they had to be angry about, it wasn't worth losing their lives over. There is no indication that they were at peace with God, so they lost their souls, too. They all paid a very high price for venting their anger in such a senseless and destructive way. When anger is allowed to rage out of control, it only causes heartache and destruction, such as it did for these men. Irritations will come, but if we allow God to control our anger, it won't become a destructive force.

Is your anger under control, more specifically under God's control? If it is not, you just might end up like these men did. It's not worth it to lose your head in senseless anger and maybe lose your life and soul, too. You say you don't let your anger go that far? That's fine, but do you let God control it? Sometimes we face big irritations with calmness and then explode over the little ones. Yet the Lord says, "Recompense to no man evil for evil." Rom. 12:17a. He wants us to give a blessing instead (I Pet. 3:9), or soothe away wrath with a soft answer (Prov. 15:1), whether the irritation is big or little. We can't do this without the Lord's help.

The stages of anger range from very mild to violent — mild irritation, resentment (displeasure), anger (sudden displeasure with a desire to get even), indignation (anger with contempt), wrath (violent, uncontrolled anger). The term "mad" means "very angry or out of all patience." We become angry because we don't like what is happening right then. Anger is aroused most generally when we don't like the actions of others, but we can become angry with ourselves, our cars, machinery, animals, and so forth. Some people even dare to be angry with God, when they can't find anyone else to blame.

At times we have due cause to be angry, but other times, it is a selfish reaction. We become angry because someone is infringing on our rights — so we think. Then we become displeased or we give others a cold shoulder. Or we might treat our children with

less kindness and respect than we do our pets and furniture. Even slight irritations can make us say nasty things to others, if we're not careful. Anger can make us nag or find fault constantly. It will make us unkind and inconsiderate of others. An angry spirit is cross, quick-tempered, sour, hard to please. Such a spirit does not please God.

Anger is not always physically destructive, but it is destructive in other ways. It destroys peace in families and among men; it seeks revenge. But God says, "Vengeance is mine." Whether it be outbursts of senseless anger, or whether you are constantly irritated with others, both have a bad effect on others, while love has a good effect. Love is kind and longsuffering, not easily provoked or quick-tempered. Love brings peace because love cares about others (see I Cor. 13). With God's help, you can love, rather than be angry and destructive.

"The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression." Prov. 19:11. Sometimes we become angry before we even think and that is no mark of wisdom. The transgressions — the things we don't like — often are not that important and we ought to control ourselves. "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." Prov. 16:32. There is no reason to become angry over every little mistake made by others. God's control results in self-control; this makes irritability and anger take a back seat.

"A friend loveth at all times." Prov. 17:17a. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35. Love for one another is proof of discipleship. A loving spirit does not leave room for petty complaining or angry outbursts. Love is considerate of others, but anger is not. This love is necessary in all our living, at home or away. It is not jut something to be displayed when certain people are around. Where does such love come from? We get it from the Lord!

"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice." Eph. 4:31. All of these are the traits of an angry spirit, a spirit not in God's control. A kind, loving spirit is just the opposite of an angry one. "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Eph. 4:32. When you have a kind disposition, one which seeks to make others happy, you don't have room for an angry, destructive spirit. Anger is not one of the Christian graces, but kindness, love and patience are. Ask the Lord to give you those.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

WHY GOD'S CHILDREN SUFFER

By Howard W. Pope

Said a certain man to a friend of mine, "I have always supposed that if one became a Christian, he would escape many of the misfortunes which come to others, and would lead a life of peace and prosperity. Indeed, I believe there is some kind of a promise that all things shall work together for good to them that love God. Since you have started on this line, however, I have watched your career carefully, and it seems to me that you have fared worse then you did before you were a Christian. First you lost your property; next your wife had a long sickness; then a broken knee laid you on your back for six months, and when you got up you had a stiff leg for life. Now how do you account for all this trouble? If God is so good to His people as you say He is, why does He permit these disasters to come upon you?"

"Well," said the man addressed, "I don't know that I can account for these things to your satisfaction, but I think I can to my own. You know I am a blacksmith. I often pick up a piece of steel, and if I think it will take a temper, I put it into the fire and bring it to a white heat. Next I plunge it into the water and suddenly change the temperature. Then I put it into the fire, and again into the water. This I repeat several times. Then I lay it on the anvil and hammer it and bend it, and make some useful article which I put into a carriage where it will do good service for twenty-five years. If, however, when I first strike it on the anvil I think it will not take a temper, I throw it into the scrap-heap and sell it for a quarter of a cent a pound.

"Now I believe that my heavenly Father has been testing me to see if I will take a temper. He has put me into the fire and into the water; he has laid me on the anvil and hammered me and rasped me. I have tried to bear it just as patiently as I could, and my daily prayer has been, 'Lord, put me into the fire if you will; put me into the water if you think I need it; do anything you please, O Lord, only for Christ's sake, don't throw me into the scrap heap.' "

I wish I could describe to you the fine temper which this man has taken. He has come out of the fire which a shining face which is an inspiration to all who meet him. His worldly affairs have improved, and in his prosperity he does not forget God, but spends his money for Him with a willing hand. Though an untaught man in the schools, yet people of culture are glad to invite him to their homes, and sit at his feet and learn what God has taught him. His quaint illustrations and profound spiritual knowledge have shed light upon the pathway of many a perplexed soul, and have led many a wanderer into the path of peace. Yes, he has taken a keen temper, and God is using him to wield mighty blows in the world's great spiritual conflict.

Perhaps this story, which is strictly true, may bring comfort to some whose lives are full of disappointment. These trials may be simply God's way of testing you to see if you "will take a temper." He may have some special work for you to do which requires a special preparation. And if the testing-time seems long, remember that He who permits the trial knows just how hot the furnace is, and just how long you need to continue in it.

Doubtless Paul felt that his years in prison were a weary waste of time; but those grand epistles which he wrote during his hours of confinement have caused millions to thank God that He permitted Paul to be imprisoned. Moses, wandering about for nearly forty years, feeding his sheep in the wilderness, may have wondered how God could treat him so, and apparently forget him — one who had been trained for a soldier and statesman, one who had renounced the riches of Egypt for God's sake — yet his life was a seeming failure. But Moses leading the nation out of Egypt, framing laws which were to govern the world, and talking face to face with the Almighty, could doubtless seem abundant reasons for those years of waiting.

The gospel teaches that we are "saved to serve." "Herein is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit." Oh, the pity of being a fruitless vine, a useless tool — so dull and clumsy that God cannot use us, so lacking in sympathy and discernment and knowledge of God that we cannot help the helpless nor comfort the sorrowing. Even Paul tells us that he kept his body under, lest after being so wondrously used of God, he might for some reason become less useful, and finally of no use — a castaway. Dr. F. B. Meyer of London recently said, "If no one for a few days writes to tell me of some help received, if no one seems to be influenced by my life, I sit down and say, 'O God, has the time come to me when for some reason I am to be of no use — a castaway?' " If then to be useless is such a misfortune, let us bravely meet adversity, knowing that if patiently borne it will make us more and more "meet for the Master's use."

But what of the afflictions which come upon the aged, whose working days are almost over? What about the faithful Christians who are sorely puzzled to reconcile their long agonies with God's goodness? Perhaps God is giving them the finishing touches of grace and beauty, that they may the more fuly reflect his image through the endless ages of eternity. How little we realize what eternity means!

"When I've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
I've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when I first begun."

And if by years of patient suffering God can take the harshness out of my voice, and make its tones more pleasing to him and more helpful to others, surely the time has been well spent.

Doubtless God has other uses for adversity than that of training for service. Some of it may be for our good, and some for the good of others, but all for the glory of God. One thing is sure, that all the sorrow borne for Jesus' sake brings us into closer fellowship with Jesus. We understand His sufferings as never before. We so appreciate His sympathy that it seems even a sweet privilege to suffer with Him.

Let us not count our afflictions as misfortunes, but as signal tokens of God's love. "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth."

"Beloved, think it not strange concening the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you; but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." I Pet. 4:12-13.

Dr. A. T. Pierson once said to a sick man, "I suppose you were such a busy man, and God had so many things to say to you, that He had to lay you on your back in order to get your attention."

As he passed out the thought occurred to him, "I too, am a busy man, and God Almighty may have to put me on my back in order to tell me all He wishes." He resolved to spend some time each night in his study, not reading or writing, but reviewing his life for the day, and opening his heart to God. It proved a great blessing to him, and doubtless it would to any one, besides saving us, possibly, from many delays in our work. "Wait, I say, on the Lord."

Selected by Sister Ruth Drake

ONE REASON FOR BEING

By William MacDonald

In planning your career, you should remember this: the great goal of your life is to glorify God and to represent His interests on earth. Everything else is incidental.

Christians have bigger business than to give their best to the unworthy world. We are born to soar on eagle's wings, not to crawl in muck.

The believer has one great occupation — to serve the Lord Christ. The only possible justification for a "job" or a "profession" is to meet daily needs and to be able to give everything above that to the work of the Lord.

The big problem today is how to keep "apostleship" and "tent-making" in proper balance. The "tent-making industry" wants an ever-increasing share of your time and your strength and your skill. The big moguls don't have any vision when it comes to

"apostleship." All they're interested in is more and bigger and finer tents. And they'll try to sap your very life in the process, if you'll let them. The big problem is to know when to say, "Thus far shall thy proud waves come and no farther." What you really have to decide is whether to give the best years of your life producing fire-resisting tents or fire-resisting souls.

We must get this straight. Our calling in life is not glass-blowing or basket-weaving or fence-making. Neither is it law or medicine or business. Our calling in life is to witness for Christ. The other is a means of making ends meet.

While the Bible does not tell us what we should do to earn our daily bread, it does lay down some principles to guide us in planning our future.

First of all, there is the principle of redemption. We have been bought by Christ — body, soul and spirit. We are His — to do with as He pleases. It is downright dishonest for us to take what doesn't belong to us and use it for selfish ambitions.

Then, there is the fact of an eternal Hell for those who die outside of Christ. If we really believe this, it will exert a profound influence on how we spend our lives. We have the answer. What are we going to do about it?

Thirdly, there is the glorious vision that men and women around us have the tremendous potential of being conformed to the image of Christ. This demands that the main thrust of our lives be concerned with sharing our Savior with the world.

Again, there is the plain command of Christ. He said, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature..." We have not begun to think properly about the issues of life until we have faced this command squarely and honestly.

There is also the principle of indispensability, Jesus said, "Let the dead bury the dead but go thou and preach the kingdom of God." In other words, don't spend the best part of your life doing what an unsaved person could do just as well. Anyone can bury a corpse, but it takes a true believer to preach the life-giving message.

Finally, there is the principle of lasting value. All our plans and purposes should be subjected to this time test: What will really count one hundred years from today? Will it be important then that you rose to become President of Amalgamated Futility Company? Will it really matter that you developed atomic-powered tiddly-winks?

The race is on. Many voices are cheering for you. Your relatives hope you'll make a name for yourself in the world. Your friends want you to become prosperous and comfortable.

I don't. I hope you'll burn out for Christ. I hope you'll lay up

treasures in Heaven. I hope you'll go in for eternal values.

And just in case no one else every says it to you, I'd like to suggest the work of the Lord as a respectable and desirable way to spend your life.

Used by permission
Selected by Sister Edith Moss

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Part 15

"Salvation is of the Jews." John 4:22. What did Jesus mean here? Did He mean that salvation of the world, must come or will come through a human race of people, or nationality, or a fleshly kingdom of this world? Or did He mean that out of the Jew's posterity would come the Saviour of the world? We believe the latter is what He meant. He, Jesus, is the Saviour of the world and no nationality or race of people can save.

NOTE: Acts 4:10-12, "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders (the Jews, Israel), which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

The Scriptures repeatedly teach us that Christ is "the headstone of the corner," in the "foundation of the Church," or the kingdom of Heaven on earth, which He said, "I will build." Matt. 16:16-18; Psa. 118:19-22; Matt. 21:42-44; I Cor. 3:11; I Peter 2:4-10.

What did Jesus mean, when He said "Ye are the salt of the earth."? Matt. 5:13. Did He mean that the Jews, as a race of people were the "salt of the earth."? Or did He mean His disciples, those whom He had chosen, to work in the kingdom, or the Church, which He came to set up (Dan. 2:44; Zech. 6:12-13), were the salt of the earth? We believe His chosen disciples and we of the Church, are the "salt of the earth." Also we are the "light of the world." Matt. 5:14. Hence, we think, that the salvation of the whole world, is of and through the Lord Jesus Christ, a Jew or of the Jewish descent, of the nationality and race of Israel.

Some Bible commentators, who have confused the minds of many people, have taught that, when Jesus said, "Ye are the salt of the earth," He meant that the Jews were to be the means of preventing the moral putrefaction of the world, and that they became extinct as a nation. They teach that God would destroy all mankind, from off the earth as He destroyed the Antediluvians,

when Noah and his family were safely shut in the Ark, or as He destroyed the cities of the plain, "Sodom and Gomorrah," when Lot escaped from them.

We think that this doctrine is very fanciful and not at all scriptural. When Christ made the statement, "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his saviour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.", He was speaking to those whom He had chosen to be His followers, pointing out to them the inferiority of the Law to the rules He had chosen to govern the kingdom of heaven on earth, those whom He had chosen for His Church, and not to the Jewish race as a nation.

Although they were Jews and salvation was of Himself, a Jew, yet He was introducing them to the order and characteristics of the New Kingdom that He had come to set up for the salvation of the world. Matt. 3:2, 4:17, 10:5-7; Mark 1:14-15. Read also Matt. 5, all of it. This was the Jewish law, or promise, which had been previously given to Israel. However, Christ fulfilled that law.

Christ the Messiah had come, Gal. 4:4, and was establishing a new Law, a new kingdom, and His followers were to be "the salt of the earth." Hence, we say those of the Kingdom of Heaven, the Church, believers in Christ, who have been "born again" are the "salt of the earth."

The above mentioned commentators say that the Jews as a race of people are "the salt of the earth." They give the following references to try to prove their theory. Such references as refer to the reestablishment of the throne of David by Christ, Acts 15:13-18; Rom. 11:1-5, 11-12, 15, 17, 23, 27. What they seemingly have failed to understand is the nature of Christ's Throne and Kingdom, that it is spiritual and not physical, or fleshly, which is so clearly taught in the New Testament.

Christ's disciples, for a time, as well as the Pharisees erred in this, as well as the people of our day. Perhaps they have stumbled at the word of David, in Psa. 132:11, "The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne." Do they think that Christ will be resurrected a second time — to set upon David's throne, in the flesh, or that David will be brought back to mortality to sit on an earthly throne? Why not admit that Christ can occupy David's throne sitting in His glorified body, and reign over His saints, Phil. 3:20-21?

Men teach that the salvation of the nations, morally and physically, and the preservation of the human race depends upon the preservation and continuance of the Jews as a race.

Friends, we say the salvation of the nations depends entirely upon their acceptance of His Word and their obedience to the same, by individual birth into the kingdom of God. John 3:3-5. Let

us get to the bottom of this erroneous teaching for out of it has come much controversy, concerning the "revelation." These commentators teach further that the present degenerate condition of the world is due to the Jews losing their savor, as the salt its saltness. Until they recover their savor, degeneration will continue to develop, until the time comes that the smell of decomposition of the decaying nationalities of the earth shall call for Divine intervention and the salt be resavored by the conversion of the Jews and the Jewish nation will again take its place among the nations of the earth.

We say those conditions will exist until Christ comes to earth and the devil and Satan is bound, after which Christ will reign over the saved of the nations gloriously. The Jew's eyes, as we understand, will not be opened to their Messiah, until they look "upon Him whom they have pierced and they are redeemed from the earth, Zech. 12:10; Rev. 14:1-6.

Reader, beware of the above doctrine. We admit that God has had a race for many years, because of His promises to them. We believe also that He will continue to preserve them, until they are again grafted into their "own olive tree" at their conversion to their Messiah, and that remnant will reign with Christ, in His Millennium, the thousand years mentioned in Rev. 20:6, after the first resurrection and translation of the saints.

Some sects teach that the four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, are added to the Old Law, and not binding upon the Church, or New Testament Dispensation. They teach that they were written for the Jews and are binding upon the Jews only. Perhaps this is why so many teach the postponement of the kingdom. We say the four gospels are for the New Dispensation of "Grace," and are binding upon the Church of Jesus Christ, throughout the Church age.

To be continued
Brother William Root

WEEDS IN ALMOST ANY SOIL

There are weeds in almost every soil. If you dig up the soil there will be found the seeds from which they grow. These seeds, however, can germinate only under the conditions brought about by sunshine and rain. There may be the seed of weeds in our nature, deep down out of sight; but should they be thrown up by some change of circumstances, we shall find evil in ourselves we never dreamed of. The Devil has neither forgotten us, not lost our trail. If we resist him, he will flee.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY

May 4 - The Disciples Sent Forth; Five Loaves and Two Fishes. Luke 9:1-17.
May 11 - MOTHER'S DAY - II Kings 4:8-37.
May 18 - The Christ of God; Transfiguration. Luke 9:18-36.
May 25 - Who is the Greatest?. Luke 9:37-62.

QUESTIONS:

(1) What two things did Jesus send His disciples to do? Luke 9:2.
(2) What two instances in the Old Testament are similar to His breaking of bread to the five thousand? I Kings 17:14; II Kings 4:4.
(3) Why do you think the mother said to Elisha, "As the Lord liveth and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee."? II Kings 4:37.
(4) Who did Peter say that Jesus was? Luke 9:20.
(5) What proof have we, in the transfiguration of Jesus, of life after death? Luke 9:30.
(6) The disciples were concerned about which of them should be the greatest. Who did Jesus say would be great? Luke 9:48.

WISE DEVIL—It is said that a preacher once had a dream in which he was shown the abode of the lost. Here a company of demons were discussing the best means for destroying the souls of men. One said, "I will go to earth and tell them that the Bible is a fable, and not of God." "No, that won't do," said another, "I will go and tell them that there is no Saviour, no Heaven, no Hell." At these words a fiendish smile lit up their faces. "No," continued another, "that will fail, you cannot make men believe that." At this the old Serpent arose himself, and remarked, "I will journey leisurely to the world of men. I will tell them that there is a God, a Saviour, a Heaven — yes, and a Hell, too, but I will tell them that there is no need of being in a hurry; take plenty of time": and all agreed that he should go.

He who has not forgiven an enemy has never yet tasted one of the most sublime enjoyments of life. — Lavater.

NOTICE

I would like to have all business for General Conference no later than April 25, 1980, if possible.

Brother Hayes Reed
1433 Overholtzer Ave.
Modesto, California 95355
Telephone number 1-209-523-2753
Writing Clerk, General Conference

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new zip code for Brother Hayes Reed is 95355.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation plans to hold our Spring Lovefeast the first Sunday in May. All are invited to come and enjoy this all day service with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

NEWBERG, OREGON

It has been our privilege recently to have a week of special meetings conducted by Elder Harley Flory of Ohio. We had looked forward for some time to this occasion and fell greatly strengthened and built-up in the faith from listening to the Gospel messages from night to night. We were glad also for the presence of Sis. Flory and daughter Linda. Sis. Flory assisted in song leading. Communion service was on Saturday night, the meetings coming to a close on Sunday night following.

Lives have been touched. The results are with the Lord. We ask an interest in your prayers for us at this place. We pray that God will bless Bro. Flory for his earnest efforts here.

Bro. and Sis. Dan Roedel returned from the Torreon Mission to be of help during the meetings. They have now returned to the Mission for the remainder of the year.

Sister Elsie Harlacher, Cor.

McCLAVE, COLORADO

The Lord willing, the McClave, Colorado Congregation plans to hold their spring Lovefeast May 10 and 11, 1980. Services will start at eleven o'clock Saturday morning, May 10. Lovefeast at 7:30 p.m.

Please, everyone who can, come and enjoy these wonderful blessings with us.

Sister Aurelia Wertz, Cor.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR MAY, 1980

DELIVERANCE AND DEATH

Memory Verse: II Cor. 1:9-10
But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead; Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us.

Thur. 1 - I Cor. 15:1-20
Fri. 2 - I Cor. 15:21-38
Sat. 3 - I Cor. 15:39-58

Memory Verse: Gal. 1:3-4
Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

Sun. 4 - II Cor. 1:1-24
Mon. 5 - II Cor. 4:1-18
Tues. 6 - Gal. 1:1-24
Wed. 7 - Col. 1:1-29
Thur. 8 - I Thess. 1:1-10
Fri. 9 - II Thess. 3:1-18
Sat. 10 - I Tim. 1:1-20

Memory Verse: Col. 1:12-13
Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

Sun. 11 - II Tim. 3:1-17
Mon. 12 - II Tim. 4:1-22
Tues. 13 - Heb. 2:1-18
Wed. 14 - Heb. 11:1-20
Thur. 15 - Heb. 11:21-40
Fri. 16 - II Pet. 2:1-22
Sat. 17 - Jude 1-25

Memory Verse: II Pet. 2:9
The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

Sun. 18 - Rev. 20:1-15
Mon. 19 - Num. 12:1-16
Tues. 20 - Num. 16:1-23
Wed. 21 - Num. 16:24-50
Thur. 22 - Isa. 14:1-23
Fri. 23 - Isa. 26:1-21
Sat. 24 - Matt. 9:10-26

Memory Verse: Num. 16:47-48
And Aaron took as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the congregation; and, behold, the plague was begun among the people: and he put on incense, and made an atonement to the people. And he stood between the dead and the living; and the plague was stayed.

Sun. 25 - Matt. 22:15-33
Mon. 26 - Matt. 27:45-66
Tues. 27 - Matt. 28:1-20
Wed. 28 - Mark 9:1-29
Thur. 29 - Mark 12:13-34
Fri. 30 - Luke 7:11-30
Sat. 31 - Luke 8:41-56

Memory Verse: Matt. 28:7
And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

Mark 12:26-27
And as touching the dead, that they rise: have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living: ye therefore do greatly err.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THE WEAVER

My life is but a weaving
  Between my Lord and me.
I cannot choose the colors
  He worketh steadily.

Oftimes He weaveth sorrow,
  And I in foolish pride
Forget He sees the upper
  And I, the underside.

Not till the loom is silent
  And the shuttles cease to fly
Shall God unroll the canvas
  And explain the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful
  In the Weaver's skillful hand
As the threads of gold and silver
  In the pattern He has planned.

— Author Unknown
Selected by Sister Ruth Snyder

UNPROFITABLE LEAVEN

Can you imagine an unleavened loaf of bread? It would be like a small cake or muffin. As good as these baked goods are, they would be disappointing when a loaf of light, soft bread was expected. The leavening permeates the dough, changing its texture so it raises, lightens and makes a loaf larger than the original lump of dough. The working of the leaven is necessary and good in the production of bread.

As good as the leaven's process is in the kitchen, it is a type of evil influence that permeates society and changes it. This leaven is always spoken of in uncomplimentary terms in the New Testament. In Matthew 16, Jesus warned of the doctrines of the Pharisees and Sadducees as being evil leaven.

Lessons of warning are often hard to receive and to understand. The lesson concerning this leaven was a difficult one for the disciples to understand because they could not get their minds off the leavened bread they had forgotten to bring along. They were more troubled by the natural bread than the Spiritual hindrances along their way, just as most people today are more concerned with the natural than the Spiritual.

Although the Pharisees and Sadducees were opposing sects within Judaism, Jesus condemned the teachings of both together. They were divided on a wide range of issues and beliefs, but they were united in their opposition to Jesus. The Sadducees were very progressive and modernistic in their teachings while the Pharisees were formal and legalistic, valuing their rules above the Word of God. But whatever their teaching, Jesus condemned both by comparing their teachings to leaven.

THE BIBLE MONITOR MAY 1, 1980

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Like the leaven in the bread dough, their doctrines permeated the minds of their fellow Jews. Whether it was the doctrine of the Sadducees, which denied that which was beyond human understanding, or the doctrine of the Pharisees, which was centered in their efforts to keep forms, they had an influence beyond the members of those two sects. Today, there still are Pharisees and Sadducees. Today's Sadducees deny the inspiration of the Bible, the existance of angels, the reality of Heaven or Hell, the Substitionary death of Jesus or His Resurrection. Today's Pharisees, unlike the Sadducees, are very religious, at least outwardly. They seek the praise and applause of men, often being involved in noteworthy events. These Pharisees seem to be quite orthodox in their belief, yet teach unbiblical doctrines. Often they accuse plain, Bible following Christians of being Pharisees, or legalists, but fail to realize that by their unbiblical teachings or by leaving off some of the Lord's commands that they are themselves guilty of being Pharisees. The Pharisees of old, while proclaiming themselves the champions of God's Word, set it aside by their teaching and living, denying it by refusing to follow some of its teachings concerning non-conformity to the world and separation from its political system.

The doctrines of the Sadducees and the Pharisees were attractive to many in their day and still are today. Either extreme is seemingly more attractive than the Biblical way which does not attract attention but will in the end insure the blessing of God.

The leaven within the bread dough works unseen, but later there will be visible results. The doctrines of the Sadducees and Pharisees work the same way, quietly, stealthily until they have permeated the lives of many people. The results may not be visible in this life but beyond the grave the eternal result will be made known.

The Apostle Paul warned the Corinthians (I Cor. 5:6-8) about the destructiveness of this kind of leaven. He admonishes them to be rid of such leaven, whether the leaven of legalism or of malice and insincerity. As the Jews removed all leaven from their homes during the Passover season, so Christians should rid all leaven from their lives.

It was after Jesus' warning concerning this pernicious leaven that we have Peter's confession of Jesus as the "Christ, the Son of the living God." This is the antidote for this leaven. The love of God for us and our love for Him in return will rid us of this unprofitable leaven. His love provided a Saviour that our sin might be forgiven. Our responding love serves Him obediently so there is no occasion for that leaven to be found in our lives.

Have you rejected the false leaven of Sadducees and the Pharisees? Have you put the unprofitable leaven out of your life?

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE

John 6:22-65

Have you ever been discouraged? Have there been times in your life when someone you thought to be your friend, let you down? Jesus had many discouraging times, too. One time Jesus was talking to the people in a Jewish church in Capernaum. He told them He was the bread from heaven and if they would eat this bread they would live forever. Jesus meant they would have to live by the words He spoke unto them, but they murmured and didn't understand. Jesus, said, "What if you see me ascend up to heaven where I was before? The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." Jesus also said that some of them didn't believe Him and someone would betray Him. From that time many of His disciples turned away and had nothing more to do with Jesus.

It seems strange that people who had seen the miracles Jesus had done, would ever turn away from Him, but they did. Just because they couldn't understand what He was teaching them — just because He told them the truth — they turned Him down. I'm sure this was very discouraging to Jesus because He said unto the twelve disciples whom He had chosen to help Him, "Will you also go away?"

Peter always answered first. Many times Peter didn't say the right thing but this time he had it just right. Peter knew what he was talking about and said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that you are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Surely, Jesus felt good that at least someone had received the message. To have the words of eternal life should mean everything to us. If we do what Jesus says, we will live forever!

Jesus is the Son of the living God. He made this world and everything in it. "All things are made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made." John 1:3.

Everyone wants to live. To go to Heaven and live with Jesus forever is the greatest. In this world we live only a few years, then we die. Jesus came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Jesus said, "He that believeth in me, though he were dead; yet shall he live and he that liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

The words of eternal life are yours for the asking. Jesus brought them from Heaven. Take them, live by them and live forever.

Brother Rudy Cover

NO LEMONS IN HEAVEN

It was a gloomy, rainy day when I went into a local business place. The receptionist was as cheerful as usual in spite of the dreary weather. I knew that she has arthritis, so asked if days like this bothered her. She said, "Yes, I hurt in so many places that I don't even want to talk about it." The pain was there, but her countenance didn't show it. She was going about her work as usual, even though she no doubt would have preferred staying home. If she, for the sake of business, could be pleasant instead of sour and grumpy, why can't we as Christian people be pleasant?

Sometimes we see people scowling and frowning, looking as though they'd had a lemon for breakfast. When they look so miserable, they give the impression that the Christian life is a miserable one. Yet, we have every reason to be happy, and to look like it! Jesus said, "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." John 15:11. When you have the fulness of joy that Jesus wants you to have, the joy that He alone can give you, it will show — even on your face.

As you read in the Bible, you find instances where someone showed great distress by putting on sackcloth and sitting in ashes. Surely it was not a pleasant sight. Neither is a sour or forlorn expression. Things may disturb us, situations may distress us, but yet we ought to look like we appreciate God's care. "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I Thess. 5:18. It never helps our problems by looking so intensely miserable that we make others miserable, too.

"But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped." Psa. 73:2. What if you greeted someone like this, one hardly able to go on, with a sour, unfriendly expression? Can't you see that one's spirits sinking all the way to the bottom? It might be like the straw that broke the camel's back, when you should be a lifeline of love and encouragement instead. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine." Prov. 17:22a. A merry heart will manifest itself in a pleasant expression and attitude, and a desire to encourage.

"Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou are mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Isa. 43:1b-2. Does your countenance reveal that you have this assurance, or do you look as though you'd lost your last friend? There is no need for us to fret and worry, for whatever problem we have, God is able to help us.

"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but

righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." Rom. 14:17. "Ask, and ye shall receive, that you joy may be full." John 16:24b. If you don't have joy, ask the Lord for it. Trade your worries about things in this life for joy and peace in the Lord. If you let trivial matters, or major ones, spoil your joy, it will also spoil your countenance. Seek the Lord's joy, the kind which shows on your face.

To the Lord's own, there is a promise: "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." Psa. 126:5. Whatever your problem, look for His joy. The Lord knows we have problems, that sometimes we are not well, yet He wants us to have joy. It is always easy to concentrate our attention on what the Lord can do for us. Your face and your attitudes about yourself and others will soon reveal what your attention is focused upon.

Our countenances reveal more than whether we have joy or a sour, grumpy disposition. We reveal on our faces much of what is in our hearts. If we are critical of others, it shows. If we are partial, it shows when we smile at one person and scowl at the next, or refuse to speak to them. If we have a holier-than-thou attitude, it shows. What should our faces reveal? A heart full of love, concern and compassion for others, and if your heart doesn't have it, your face can't reveal it.

"Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit." Psa. 51:12. If you've lost the joy which should be yours in the Lord, ask Him to restore it. If you've never had this joy, ask the Lord to give it to you. A sour, glum disposition is not for the Christian here and there won't be any "lemons" in Heaven either. We are in the Lord's presence right now, so let's have His joy right now. And — don't be afraid to let it show on your face!

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

PEACE AND UNION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Among those where envy, jealously, back biting and sowing discord exist continually, there can be no peace. Referring to the unrighteous, they have made them crooked paths and whosoever goes therein will never know peace. "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Rom. 8:6. We need to be separated from evil and united with truth and righteousness. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." II Cor. 6:17.

As we grow older in this life and have failing health, we realize it is important to avoid confusion and strife to maintain good health. Those who have made their calling and election sure do not

authorize confusion an carnal strife. "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Eph. 4:3. We are commanded to live at peace as far as possible with all men. God is not the author of confusion but of peace. Christ said, "My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth."

Confusion and strife are destructive. True peace and union are constructive within the Church. True Christians are seeking peace that leads on to eternal peace. True Christians oppose sin and unite with truth and righteousness that they may have peace with God. "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart." II Tim. 2:22. We need unity for the faith once delivered to the saints.

True Christians are separated from evil. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord almighty." II Cor. 6:17-18. The promise is to those who gather in His name, whether it be few or many. On the day of pentacost they were successful because there was peace and union and they were filled with the Holy Spirit. "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all Churches of the saints." I Cor. 14:33.

Are we separated from evil and rooted and grounded in the plan of salvation? A separation from evil is required to be at peace and in union with God. "So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." Rom. 12:5. "For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread." I Cor. 10:17. We need unity in truth and righteousness that meets the approval of God. "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work where unto I have called them." Acts 13:2. Christ is calling us to be separated from evil and united in truth and righteousness. We need to be separated from the forces of evil to be at peace and in union with God.

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Ps. 133:1. It is an important matter that our unity is of truth and righteousness and continues, "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." Eph. 4:13. Are we united with the family of God? Separation from evil and its forces are commanded to obtain peace and union of truth and righteousness. We must accept and be united with the saving Gospel here to share in the glorious reunion of eternity.

Brother J. F. Marks
Rt. 9, Box 860
Plant City, Florida

COMPLETENESS OF REVELATION

Without the Bible, man would be engulfed in oppressive darkness! All that we know about God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, Angels, Satan, Heaven, and Hell comes from one source: the Bible! From it we have the terse explanation of how the universe came into being: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Gen. 1:1. This first sentence written by Moses settles forever the origin of man, and the universe in which he dwells! All other theories are nebulous and mythological. This first Bible sentence gives the only plausible answer. It is with this sentence that the mind of God begins to be revealed unto man!

There are other sources which bear testimony of God: but they do not reveal His will. God is revealed in nature. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard." Psa. 19:1-3. In nature the evidence of God is unmistakable, and skeptics are without excuse. "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things what are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." Rom. 1:20. Irrefutable evidence must be ignored to say there is no God; and only the fool does, Psa. 14:1. "Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth." Isa. 49:26. Such evidence was shown forcefully in Paul's teaching. Acts 14:17, "Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness." But despite this evidence that God is, nature still does not reveal the mind of God, nor show what we must do to please Him!

The work of Old Testament prophets. Under the Patriarchal and Mosaic ages, God revealed His will through chosen prophets. Yet it was still God's own revelation! "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation, For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." II Pet. 1:20-21. Thus it was that David said, "The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his word was in my tongue." II Sam. 23:2. This was also confirmed by Peter in Acts 1:16, "Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus." Those Old Testament prophets unlocked some of the mysteries of God's will: but not all of them! "Of which salvation

the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the suffering of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are not reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into." I Pet. 1:10-12. This should give us an appreciation of the revelation which we now have in that glorious gospel of Christ!

Jesus accepted the revelation of the prophets, Jesus places His stamp of approval on all the Old Testament's Prophets revealed. "And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself." Luke 24:27. He pointedly stated "... that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me." Luke 24:44. On one occasion He upbraided the Jews: "For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me." John 5:46. Later Paul taught the exalted place of Old Testament revelation. "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." Rom. 15:4. Don't be guilty of discounting or bemeaning those sacred writings. It was of them that it was said: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God... That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." II Tim. 3:16-17. But still, a greater revelation was to come.

To be continued
Selected by Brother W. E. Bashor

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from April 15, 1980 Issue

The time of Israel being carried away into captivity at Babylon and the destruction of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzer in B.C. 587 ended a period of deadly tribal wars, which was made illustrious by the ministry of a noble succession of great prophets and began that long period, which still continues, known in the Scriptures as "The times of the Gentiles," which will now occupy our attention.

What do we mean by the "Times of the Gentiles?" After the kingdom of God's first chosen people, whom He called out of the nations of the world, became extinct, it seems God recognized certain kings of the world nations, as His servants, until the time came for the fulfilling of His purpose in sending His Son into the world, as the world's Saviour, Gal. 4:4. God has ever in the past,

and we believe still does, recognize kings and rulers to govern the affairs of the world-kingdom. The main theme of the Book of the Prophet Daniel, shows the sovereignty of God over the affairs of men in all ages. The pagan kings' confessions of this fact constitute the key verses of his book, Dan. 2:47, 4:37, 6:26.

Josephus, wrote of Daniel, (book 10, chapter 11), "All these things did this man leave in writing, as God had showed them to him, insomuch that such as read his prophesies, and see how they have been fulfilled, would wonder at the honour wherewith God honoured Daniel; and may thence discover how the Epicureans are in error, who cast Providence out of human life, and do not believe that God takes care of the affairs of the world, nor that the universe is governed and continued in being by that blessed and immortal nature, but say that the world is carried along of its own accord, without a ruler and a curator; which, were it destitute of a guide to conduct it, as they imagine, it would be like ships without pilots, which we see drowned by the winds, or like chariots without drivers, which are overturned; so would the world be dashed to pieces by its being carried without a Providence, and so perish, and come to nought."

We are commanded to pray for kings, and rulers, those in authority, and to be "subject to the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." Rom. 13:1. The times of the Gentiles are fully outlined and described, by the prophets. They begin with Nebuchadnezzer and end, as we understand, at the battle of Armegeddon, where Christ comes to overthow and destroy the nations.

The fifth period of Jewish History began in B.C. 536, after their seventy years of captivity ended, as prophesied by Jeremiah 25:11. Some forty thousand of those in captivity returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the city and the Temple. The Temple was not finished and dedicated until twenty years later and the walls of the city were not rebuilt until seventy more years had passed by, B.C. 445.

While the Jews were permitted to return to their own land, they never again secured supremacy. They remained subjects to the different conquerors of their land, though for the most part governed by rulers of their own race.

The Jews, though chosen to be God's chosen people, fell into idolatry and were carried into captivity, they were supplanted by the Gentiles. The nations of Egypt, Assyria and Babylon were anxious to conquer and supplant Israel (the Jews), but God held them on an unseen leash until the iniquity of Israel was full, then He permitted the world power to pass into the hands of Nebuchadnezzer, King of Babylon.

Note: Jeremiah's account of this, Jer. 27:5-7, "I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed meet to me. And now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzer the king of Bablyon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him. And all nations shall serve him, and his son, and his son's son, until the very time of his land come: And then many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of him."

This happened in approximately B.C. 606 and marked the beginning of the times of the Gentiles. Hence we see that God's chosen people, His saints are under the authority of the kings and nations, to this day, in the sense of being "subject to them." Rom. 13:1.

Brother William Root

OBITUARIES

CARRIE RICE

Sis. Carrie Rice was born September 26, 1906 and died December 11, 1979 at the Frederick Memorial Hospital after an illness of eighteen months. She was a daughter of the late Samuel C. and Grace E. Eaton. She was born near Lewistown, Maryland where she spent her entire life. She was united in marriage to Joshua A. L. Rice, October 31, 1925.

He survives, along with the following children, Mildred M. Davis, Frederick, Maryland; Madaline C. Hoofman, Huntingtown, Maryland; Elma M. Johnson, Mt. Airy, Maryland; Lawrence D. Rice, Lewistown, Maryland. Two sisters, Mrs. Mary Rice, Miss Ruth Eaton and four brothers, John J., Robert, Raymond S. and Henry, all of Lewistown, Maryland also survive, plus eight grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews.

She was a charter member of the Mt. Dale Congregation.

Funeral services were held at the Mt. Dale Church, December 15, 1979 conducted by Elders Jacob Ness and Frank Shaffer.

The family wishes to extend their sincere thanks to all for their expressions of sympathy and help shown us during the illness of our dear wife and mother. May the Lord bless one and all is our prayer. Pray for us.

Your Brother, Joshua A. L. Rice

ROY HEDDINGS

Bro. Roy Auten Heddings, 96, died March 6, 1980 at his home at Catlett, Virginia. He was the last member of his family of brothers and sisters. He was born November 26, 1883 in Mecklenburg, Pennsylvania. His family came to Nokesville when he was a small child. They later lived at Calverton and Midland.

He was a farmer and carried mail from the Catlett Post Office for forty years, retiring from mail service in 1953.

After his marriage to the former Edna Pearl Andes, they made their home at Catlett. Five children were born to this union. Fred Heddings, who proceeded his father; William S. and Jesse A., Catlett; Margaret Jensen, Dade City, Florida and Jeanette Wampler, Grottoes, Virginia. Mrs. Heddings died in 1936. In 1938 he married Sallie Miller of Midland. To this union was born Mary Catherine Ennis of Catlett. Mrs. Heddings died in 1969.

Bro. Heddings was a member of the Midland Church of the Brethren which he served as clerk, Sunday School Superintendent, in the choir and as Bible study leader.

He had been active until the last couple of years and had been ill only about a month before his death. For nearly five years he has lived with his son, Jesse.

Besides his children, he leaves twenty-four grandchildren, twenty-nine great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson. He also leaves nieces and nephews as well as many friends and relatives.

Bro. Heddings' funeral was conducted March 9, at his home church by Rev. Emerson Fike and Rev. Thomas Stanton. Grandsons were pallbearers. Interment was at the church cemetery.

MARRIAGES

NOECKER - LITFIN

Sister Karen Noecker, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Daniel Noecker, Bethel, Pennsylvania and Bro. Arlyn Litfin, son of Bro. and Sis. Doyle Litfin, Oakdale, California were united in marriage January 5, 1980 at the Frystown Dunkard Brethren Church by Elder David Ebling. Bro. Kenneth Wolfe conducted the opening devotions. The couple will make their home at 11736 Yosemite Boulevard, Waterford, California 95386.

ANDREWS - MEYERS

Sister Brenda Andrews, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Larry Andrews, Raymore, Missouri and Bro. Alan Meyers, son of Bro. and Sis. Martin Meyers, Adel, Iowa were united in marriage March 8, 1980 at the Grandview Dunkard Brethren Church. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Dennis St. John of Stryker, Ohio. The couple will reside at R. 3, Adel, Iowa 50003.

NEWS ITEMS

DIRECTIONS TO GENERAL CONFERENCE

General Conference will be held June 7-11, 1980 at the Cleona United Christian Camp Meeting Grounds, Cleona, Pennsylvania 17042. Telephone 717-867-4041.

Those traveling by Pennsylvania Turnpike will get off at the Lancaster-Lebanon Exit and take 72 north to center of Lebanon which is 9th and Cumberland St. Cumberland St. is 422. Take 422 west to Cleona, turn right on Center St. Go north approximately one mile to first road to left and follow to Camp Meeting Grove on left.

Those traveling east on Interstate 80, exit at Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. Go south to Route 322 through Harrisburg to Hershey. At west end of Hershey go on Route 422, continue on 422 to Cleona. At traffic light turn left on Center St. Go about one mile to first road left and follow to Camp Meeting Grove on left.

Anyone coming by plane to Middletown Airport should call Cleona Camp Grounds 717-867-4041. Someone will come to pick you up.

There is room for campers and trailers. Only electricity is available for their use.

Please bring sheets and pillow cases.

Are your reservations made?

The Lodging Committee
Bro. Edwin Stauffer
R. 1, Box 291
Newmanstown, Pennsylvania 17073
Bro. Verling Wolfe
R. D. #1482
Bethel, Pennsylvania 19507

NEW CHURCH LOCATION

The Pleasant Home Church is located at 3960 Sharon Avenue, Modesto, California. The Church's telephone number is 209-524-8634.

Directions: From the South on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit to the right and stay on Briggsmore Avenue to Claus Road (approximately six miles), turn left on Clause, one fourth mile to Sharon Avenue, left on Sharon Avenue, Church is on the left. Coming from the North on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit, turn left and stay on Briggsmore and follow above directions.

Sister Edyth Kline, Cor.

WEST FULTON, OHIO

The Lord willing, the West Fulton Congregation plans to have our Spring Lovefeast, May 17, 1980. Services will begin at 11 A.M. Saturday, with Lovefeast in the evening.

A hearty invitation is extended to all who can come and share in the fellowship with us.

Sister Elaine Leatherman, Cor.

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lititz Congregation plans to have their Lovefeast on Saturday, May 17 starting at 2 o'clock with Lovefeast in the evening.

A hearty invitation is extended to ministers and all who can come.

Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation enjoyed a revival meeting March 16-30 with Bro. Dennis St. John as our evangelist. Bro. St. John brought to us stirring messages filled with the Spirit. Our hearts rejoiced for the twenty-three precious young souls who gave their hearts to the Lord.

We were glad to have Sis. Donna and little Colleen with us during these meetings. May the Lord richly bless Bro. St. John in his labours for the Master.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

We were permitted once again to enjoy another Revival Meeting. Bro. Fred Pifer brought us many soul-stirring and uplifting messages. Surely we are filled and running over. We were glad to have Sis. Diane with us through the two week meeting. There were no converts at this time. We appreciate the visitors from other congregations who fellowshipped with us. We each have a stronger obligation and Christian duty to do. May we all stand for the right for, "Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world."

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

CARD OF THANKS

I want to thank each one who so kindly remembered me with flowers, gifts, letters, cards and visits during my stay in the hospital and Mt. Hope Home. I also thank God for the anointing service and the many prayers offered in my behalf.

Sister Ruth Drake

THANK YOU

May God bless those who remembered our mother, Sister Mabel Harman, during her surgery and seven weeks in the Rushville Culbertson Hospital with prayers, visits, calls and mail. She is at home again progressing well. Praying friends are God's blessing to the believer. May we never forget to look up, although the burdens are many.

Her family

IN APPRECIATION

I take this means to thank all the good Brethren and Sisters who remembered me while in the Hospital and since returning home, for all the nice cards, letters, calls and prayers in my behalf. May God Bless you each one.

Elder Harley Rush

We would like to extend a thank you to the Brothers and Sisters of the Church for remembering me in my illness and convalescence with cards, visits, gifts and prayers in my behalf.

We also thank you and appreciate the cards and gifts we received remembering us for our Fiftieth Anniversary.

God bless you all for your kindnesses.

Brother Levi and Sister Emma Gibbel

UNWORTHY RIGHT HAND

In the days of martyrdom, Cranmer was sentenced to be burned at the stake. Overcome by fear, he signed a paper denying the religion he had preached. But he then became miserable, and boldly took up his former faith. For this he was burned at the stake. When brought to the fire he voluntarily stretched forth the hand that had signed the paper of recantation and held it in the fire till it was consumed; frequently exclaiming: "That unworthy right hand."

BAXTER'S ASSURANCE

Richard Baxter once said, in substance, something like this: "If the Bible should say Richard Baxter should have everlasting life by believing in Jesus, I could not be certain that I was meant, since there might be others named Richard Baxter, but it declares whosoever, and I know that means me."

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII MAY 15, 1980 NO. 10

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

I AM RESOLVED

I am resolved no longer to linger,
Charmed by the world's delight;
Things that are higher, things that are nobler,
These have allured my sight.

I am resolved to go to the Savior,
Leaving my sin and strife;
He is the true One, He is the just One,
He hath the words of life.

I am resolved to follow the Savior,
Faithful and true each day;
Heed what He sayeth, do what He willeth,
He is the living way.

I am resolved to enter the Kingdom,
Leaving the paths of sin;
Friends may oppose me, foes may beset me,
Still will I enter in.

- Palmer Hartsough

"DRAWING THE LINE"

The phrase "drawing the line" means there is a limit, beyond which compromise, yielding and retreat are no longer possible.

An illustration of the choice that "drawing the line" demands is found in the early history of the Brethren in this land. At the time of division between the Brethren and the followers of Conrad Beissel in the Conestoga Congregation in 1734, a rail was laid on the floor of the barn where the members met. Those who wished to identify with the Brethren were to step to the right side of the rail; those wishing to follow Beissel to the left. The loyalty of each was determined. Do we, today, have the courage to choose the right side of the rail? Are we willing to draw the line, signifying that we will retreat no further before the advances of Satan?

The basis of our Christian belief is the fact that the Bible is the Word of God. Because it is God's Word we can receive it as a perfect standard by which to measure our beliefs and our living. Not only must our doctrine be in accord with the Bible, but our living must also meet that standard. We must be able to "draw the line" in our living.

The world about us stresses freedom. Even many professing Christians stress their freedom to do as they please, yet remain followers of Jesus. The Christian's freedom lies not in his freedom to please self but in the privilege of serving God. God has not limited His servants to a chosen few, but all who come to Him through Jesus may not only be His servants but His children. God has established limits for His children.

THE BIBLE MONITOR MAY 15, 1980

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Our Heavenly Father, like our earthly parents, finds it necessary to "draw the line" concerning certain activities. Earthly parents "draw the line" to protect their children either from physical danger or moral contamination. Children may resent these restrictions at the time but in the future will be thankful for their parent's concern and love. The children of God do not always realize why He has limited their activities. They do not always accept kindly or humbly the restrictions placed upon them, whether through His chastening or through the Church's discipline.

God's desire is that each Christian would be able to "draw the line" for himself. It would be a joy if each one were able to conform to the limits God has given, but through weakness, temptation and pride this perfect state does not prevail. Therefore, it is necessary for the Church to establish guidelines to encourage each to remain within the limits God has given. As distasteful as "drawing the line" may be, it is nevertheless necessary so the members may truly serve God.

When "drawing the line" has been neglected by a congregation, each member is left to decide his own course. His individual choices become more important than the choices of the whole body or even more important than the counsel of God's Word. While his course may seem right to him, it will only bring confusion into the Church by destroying the standard established for the benefit of each member.

When the line has been left undrawn, it becomes very difficult to re-establish the former limit. The longer no line is drawn, the harder it becomes to do so. Great vigilance is demanded to guard against drift. It is easier to be vigilant than to restore former limits, when vigilance has not been kept up.

There are many reasons why the line remains undrawn. One reason is the fear of offending. As Christians we must not be rude or repulsive in our dealings with others, even those who are opposed to right and righteousness. Although recognizing our duty of courtesy, we must not compromise the message of God's Word. To stand openly for the teachings of the Bible, whether concerning the need of salvation through Jesus Christ, the ordinances of the Church or the practice of Biblical Christianity, will stamp them more firmly upon the minds of those who hear and observe.

Another reason for failing to "draw the line" is the fear of being considered narrow minded. We live in a very broadminded world that will accept almost anything, especially if it does not demand a limit on their activities. Jesus was narrow; Paul was narrow. They are far better company for today's Christian than the believe-

anything, do-anything world around us. Broadmindedness accompanies the traveler on the broad way that leads to destruction. The narrow way, though scorned and lonely, will prove more profitable in the end.

Are you willing to "draw the line" in your own life? Are you willing to "draw the line" as a congregation?

THE WAY TO GET

The way to get is to give — not grab! Giving is unselfishness in action and a way of saying "I love others best." Selfishness grabs for self, indulges every little whim and yet is never satisfied. Selfishness causes whining and complaining, but giving brings contentment and peace. Someone has said, "If you want to have your own way, put others first." This is a giving spirit, the kind that should be in the hearts of God's people.

All negative emotions, including selfishness, are destructive and need to be gotten rid of. "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Eph. 4:31-32. Selfishness is the cause of much anger and unkindness. Until you get rid of it, you can't have the tender, forgiving spirit that Christ wants you to have.

Christ ministered to large masses of people, but He also took time to help people individually, when such help was needed. He spent many hours helping others by healing them and teaching them about God. In short, His life was spent in giving and in His death, He gave all that He had for you and me. Christ loved us so much that He even gave His life for us. This is pure unselfishness and love in action. Christ's giving has gained Him the love of many, many people who have received forgiveness of sins through Him, plus the peace of knowing that He had done the Father's will.

Love, kindness and concern for others should dominate our spirits, as it did Christ's. A pleasant spirit should be ours rather than a sour, complaining, critical disposition. We are to put off anger, malice, and so forth which draw attention to self. Then we are to put on kindness, meekness, love, peace, which make it possible to give to others. If we don't love, we won't give, except when we have a selfish motive and expect a favor in return. (Read Col. 3:8-17) Whatever we do, whatever we say should be done in the name of our Lord. We can't be selfish and still bring honor to Him.

Ecclestiastes 11:1 says, "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for

thou shalt find it after many days." Jesus said, "Give to him that asketh thee." Matt. 5:42a. These verses don't leave room for grabbing for yourself. Instead, we are told to share, to give where needed. When we do, we don't need to worry about whether we will have enough, for we have a promise for us. "He which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." II Cor. 9:6b. You'll never be sorry for being generous.

"Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." Acts 3:6. Peter didn't have any money, but he gave healing in the name of Jesus. The Samaritan gave help to the wounded man. The father gave love and forgiveness to his prodigal son. Each one of these men gave what they could. You may think you don't have anything to give, but just do what you can. That's all the Lord asks of you and He will bless your efforts.

Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35b. "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." II Cor. 9:7. It is more blessed to give, if you give cheerfully. But if you give unwillingly or just because it's the thing to do, the blessing is lost. If you give with a selfish motive in mind, God won't be there with a blessing then either.

Jesus was blessed in His living, loving and giving. You can too. Jesus said that when our alms (or our giving) are done in secret, we shall be rewarded openly. The same promise applies to prayer and fasting. There are people who like public announcements to be made concerning their giving, but the blessing comes when we do things quietly, without drawing attention to ourselves. A gift given to gain attention for self really isn't a gift. Such an attitude spoils the whole thing. It also prevents the Lord from blessing us.

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:38. Whatever you give out, you'll get back. Remember — your motive must be generous also, not just the deed.

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Mal. 3:10. If you want to receive, give. Grabbing for yourself means the blessing goes to someone else. Give with love, without wondering what you blessing will be. No matter what you give or how much, you can't outgive God.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

CRUMBS FROM THE MASTER'S TABLE

Matt. 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30

Do you have a dog in your home? Many people do. Dogs like people — especially those who give them a home and feed them. Dogs don't sit at the table and eat like people, but many times they do lie on the floor when people are eating, hoping that some one will give them a piece of bread or meat; even if a crumb is dropped, they will eat it and appreciate it. Dogs seem to worship their masters and are ever ready to obey them.

Jesus was teaching people in the northern part of Palestine and went into or towards the land of the cities of Tyre and Sidon which were along the Mediterranean Sea. Jesus was tired, so He went into a house hoping to rest. While Jesus was in this home, a woman who was a Greek heard of Him and came to Him. She fell at His feet and said, "Have mercy on me, O, Lord, thou Son of David, my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil."

Jesus didn't answer her a word and His disciples came and said, "Send her away, for she crieth after us, she won't let us alone."

Then Jesus said to her, "I am only sent unto the people of Israel."

The woman came and worshipped Jesus and said, "Lord, help me."

Jesus answered her, "It's not right to take the children's bread and cast it to dogs." The Jews called all other people, "dogs." Jesus had never been known to talk this way to anyone, but He was testing this woman and He knew what she would say.

The woman said, "That is the truth, Lord, yet the dogs eat of the crumbs that fall from the Master's table." The woman was asking Jesus, who had helped so many and whose power and goodness knew no limit, to just give her a crumb. "Healing my daughter is nothing compared to all you have done for your people. I'm only asking for just a little."

Jesus, who had pretended to refuse the woman's request, looked at her with a love that only Jesus could have and said, "O, woman, great is thy faith: be it unto you even as you desire." And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

We have a wonderful lesson here. The woman knew Jesus, alone, could heal her daughter. There was no other place to go. Even though Jesus pretended to insult and refuse her request, she still wouldn't give up. She kept asking Jesus even though she had to humiliate herself before those around her. She was willing to consider herself a dog, to have her daughter well again. If we have great faith and humility and never give up, like this good woman, we also can eat of the crumbs from the Master's table.

Brother Rudy Cover

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

of the

DUNKARD BRETHREN CHURCH

To be held at

CLEONA UNITED CHRISTIAN CAMP MEETING GROUNDS

Cleona, Pennsylvania

June 7 - 11, 1980

PREACHING PROGRAM

Time	Speaker	Subject	Text
Sat. P.M.	Paul Hartz	Faith of our Fathers for Dunkards of Today	II Tim. 1
Sat. P.M.	Jack Snyder	To Be Supplied	
Sat. Eve.	Ray Reed	The Doctrine of Non-Conformity	Rom. 12:2
Sun. A.M.	Sunday School	Children - Joseph, Hated of his Brothers	Gen. 37:1-36
Sun. A.M.	Paul R. Myers	What the Dunkard Church means to me.	Matt. 16:13-20
Sun. A.M.	Howard Surbey	What—Ought Ye to be?	II Pet. 3:8-14
Sun. P.M.	Allen Eberly	To Be Supplied	
Sun. P.M.	Paul Reed	The Beauty Lies Within the Motive	Isa. 53:2
Sun. Eve.	Joseph Flora	The Door is Opened	I Cor. 16:9
Sun. Eve.	Kenneth Wolfe	To the Young People	
Mon. A.M.	Bible Study	Adults - Good Samaritan	Luke 10:25-42
		Children - Three Hebrew Children	Dan. 3:1-30
Mon. A.M.	John Peffer		Heb. 12:14
Mon. P.M.	Fred Pifer	For this Child I Prayed	I Sam. 1:27
Mon. P.M.	Eldon Mallow	To Be Supplied	
Mon. Eve.	James Kegerreis	Fountain of Life	Zech. 13:1
Mon. Eve.	Eugene Kauffman	To Be Supplied	
Tues. A.M.	Bible Study	Adults - The Great Commission	Matt. 28:17-20
		Children - Daniel Cast into the Den of Lions	Dan. 6:1-28
Tues. A.M.	Carl Broadwater	To Be Supplied	
Tues. P.M.	Merle Swihart	To Be Supplied	
Tues. P.M.	Virgil Leatherman	To Be Supplied	
Tues. Eve.	Dale Jamison	Missionary Sermon Am I My Brothers Keeper?	

THE BOND OF PERFECTNESS

There was a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho, who was robbed, stripped, and severely beaten. The man laid in the road unattended by two passersby; a priest and a righteous man. A Samaritan saw and assisted this afflicted man with his time and money. This is a well known parable spoken by Jesus. Jesus said to go and do as the Samaritan did.

The bond of perfectness is charity. Charity or a concern for others without thought of recompensation is greater than faith or hope, and only secondary to our love for God. Without charity, our service to God is null, for God is love.

The charity you bestow onto others, you actually do unto Jesus. Read Matthew 25:31-46. In verse 40 Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Do you show Jesus your love for Him by caring for others, not just the easy-to like people, but those who may be of a different religion, race, or morality? Can you see a sinner and not judge, but rather try to show them Jesus through you and your light? Who is the least of Jesus' brethren? The poor, the sick, the transgressor of God's and/or man's law, the children, the elderly, the lonely, and many more. Each of these persons will be helped by you. Let your light shine. Brighten your corner. Don't just give of your abundance, give your most valued possession... YOURSELF.

Help others as you can. Everyone can smile, talk, and listen, help someone with their work, share a meal, write a letter, call them on the telephone, offer a prayer, hold their needing hand, make them feel loved — a sense of belonging, give encouragement, tell a joke, inspire hope and confidence and much more. Your time won't be lost, because a person who remembers the needy lends unto the Lord. You are blessed if you are able to help someone and will undoubtedly be more blessed, if, you use what talents God has given you.

The reward of charity is one of the most beautiful experiences in life. Such as, when an agnostic, terminal patient confides his fears with you and after a while he is more ready to accept his fate. When leaving, this person holds your hand and says "God bless you." When a slow learner achieves a new reading level. When a mentally retarded woman says, "You're my friend. You don't treat me like a kid." When you hold the hand of someone who is dying, you tell her, "You're with people who love you." When death comes, somehow, it was good that you were there. Joy is what you experience when you are caring about someone else. Let's help one another and step closer to our bond of perfectness.

Sister Beverly Frost

COMPLETENESS OF REVELATION

Continued from May 1, 1980 Issue

Christ's revelation of the Father. John said of Jesus, "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son,... he hath declared him." John 1:18. Herein was to be the fullest revelation: "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son..." Heb. 1:1-2. This revelation was to eclipse that of the prophets. "For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him." John 3:34. God was with the Son in all He revealed: "For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak." John 12:49. He could say to His disciples, "... for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you." John 15:15. It is no marvel that God declared, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." Matt. 17:5.

God's revelation by the apostles. Before He left His disciples, Jesus promised them, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." John 14:26. He further stated they would bear witness by the Spirit. "And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning." John 15:27. God's revealed Will thus came through them. "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." I Cor. 2:10. Paul affirms the mysteries of the gospel were revealed from God by the Spirit unto the apostles, who then revealed the gospel to all! "But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed." Gal. 3:23. But God's full revelation was to be made known to the world!

Paul explains to the Ephesian saints, "How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ." Eph. 3:3-4. Paul says God revealed to him the mystery of the plan of salvation and he wrote it that WE might understand! By this means the mind of God is opened unto man! This unlocks the door, and we learn what to do to please God! It was of God: not of man, "neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." Gal. 1:12.

Keep in mind that, "... without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Heb. 11:6. But don't overlook how this faith comes, "So then faith cometh by hearing,

and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17. "... And this was the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." I Pet. 1:25. Never discount the worth of God's revealed Word in saving your soul.

Selected by Brother W. E. Bashor

ABOUNDING IN HOPE

Romans 15:13

"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

The foregoing part of Romans was written for this expressed purpose. The Bible student today, young or old, who assimilates Paul's teaching in this epistle is ready for this heavenly blessing by the "God of hope." God deals with each believer by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Today because of great controversies over the word "believe" we usually add "true" or "truly" to it as if to strengthen or qualify its meaning; and indeed, in searching our own hearts, we might well use such words.

But let us remember that basically Truth is ever in our Blessed Lord Jesus and in His blessed words of Spirit and of life. John 14:6, "... I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Truth needs no supporting words. Matt. 5:37, "But let your communication by Yea, yea: Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil." In believing in Jesus we have accepted Him and His words. As we allow the Holy Spirit to search the inner soul life, He brings the Truth to us, which we cannot do of ourselves.

The Holy Spirit uses the word "believe" often in the New Testament Scriptures. It became a fully expressive word alike to the highly educated Nicodemus and also to the little children. Matt. 18:6, 10. The Holy Spirit brings joy and peace in believing in Jesus as Saviour and Lord. Let us take the word as given and accept His blessing.

The words "faith" and "believe" are beautifully intertwined in II Cor. 4:13. "We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believe, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe and therefore speak."

The remaining three, faith, hope and love, I Cor. 13:13 are from Christ to us. The Written Word declares them; the Holy Spirit makes them strong forces of power in our lives. We are exhorted in I Cor. 4:7, "For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?"

In the first quoted verse, the God of hope fills the believer "with all joy and peace in believing." Then this "Abounding hope through the power of the Holy Spirit," and so are we led by Him into the realm of the perfect love of God in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

God's enemy, Satan, now attacks us on every step of faith, on every expression of hope, on every labor of love. With God's Word and Holy Spirit "... we are not ignorant of his devices." II Cor. 2:11. He has the advantage of being unseen. But God's Word well describes him, his wickedness, and his final doom. He is indeed powerful, but we are assured. I John 4:4, "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

This abounding hope is given to us in the power of the Holy Spirit. It is founded on God's Word, reaching up to Him, where it is anchored in Jesus. It must not be confused with our own natural wishing. One may, and no doubt, many do wish for God and Heaven, but have no grounded and anchored hope of getting there. Such wishers may indeed be needing our help in pointing them to Jesus, "the lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29. But first I must ask myself, "Do I have this abounding hope of which Paul wrote?"

Hope brightens the daily paths of the Christian, reminding him or her, of the precious promises of God "... that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Prov. 4:18.

God's promises to Israel were of a good, long life in a good land, with a good government that ever honored God and His Law to them. But we read of no direct promises of Heaven, except of course, as it concerned the coming of the Messiah. As we note the blessings and curses outlined in Deut. 27 and 28, we may see to some extent, their now-many-centuries-long, heart hungerings for their promised Messiah and King. Only God knows how many spent lives of prayer and suffering yet received not the promise, although they "received a good report" through faith. "God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect." Heb. 11:39-40.

Our God-given hope, (Heb. 7:19), is a "better hope," with Jesus the Mediator of a better covenant, which is established upon better promises (Heb. 8:6). With the hymn writer we can say, "I'm standing on the promises of God."

Those ancient faithful in Israel felt the need of a strong hope. David cried out to God, Ps. 71:5, "For thou are my hope, O Lord God.", and 119:116, "Let me not be ashamed of my hope." He exhorted his people, 130:7, 131:3, "Let Israel hope in the Lord."

Only as the soul is fed and nurtured on the Word of God can we

radiate the joy of our hope. To those who either do not have a Bible or cannot read, the memory has indeed a vast potential for use. Great feats of memory are recorded, where some have memorized the entire Bible. Seeing the onsweep of atheistic communism in the world today, some are committing large portions of the Word to memory. And should we be like some are, thrown into a Godless jail or labor camp without a Bible, we would indeed search our memories for precious remembered passages of Scripture.

Precious Promises of God stored up in the memory will give strength and victory in daily overcomings in times of testing and trial. In times of revival the remembered word will keep our hope centered on our loving Lord who richly feeds the soul with the Bread of eternal Life.

It is ever a sure and expectant hope. Heb. 6:17-20, "Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things in which is was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us. Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil, Whether the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an priest for ever after the order of Melchisedek."

Not only is it a sure hope, but also a lively hope. I Pet. 1:3-5, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God, through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

Paul's sure, living hope was made radiant in his sufferings for Christ, as expressed in Rom. 5:1-5, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also, knowing that tribulation worketh patience and patience, experience, and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto us."

The Apostle John speaks of Christ's appearance and the fond hope of seeing and being like Him. I John 3:1-3, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we the (children) sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know

that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him: for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him, purifieth himself even as he is pure."

This God-given, abounding hope has the knowledge of Christ's return in Glory, and of our own change when we shall see Him and be like Him. It ever calls us to purity of heart and a purifying of ourselves in word and deed before God and man.

O, can we say we are ready, brother?
Ready for the soul's bright home?
Say, will he find you and me still watching,
Waiting, waiting, when the Lord shall come?

Your Brother in Christ,
James D. Cover

NEWS ITEMS

MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The Mechanicsburg Congregation is again prayerfully looking forward to enjoying another Spirit-filled revival beginning June 13, 1980 and to continue for ten days. Elder Paul Reed from Riner, Virginia is expecting to be with us at that time, the Lord willing. Please pray for him that his preaching will encourage the Saints and cause the lost to repent. Everyone is welcome to these services.

Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JUNE

June 1 — Jesus Sends Out the Seventy. Luke 10:1-24.
June 8 — The Good Samaritan; That Good Part. Luke 10:25-42.
June 15 — FATHER'S DAY. Mark 9:14-29.
June 22 — "Teach Us to Pray." Luke 11:1-13.
June 29 — TEMPERANCE. Daniel 5:1-31.

QUESTIONS:

(1) Why do you think Jesus gave His disciples power to heal the sick? Luke 10:9.
(2) The Good Samaritan helped a man in need. The priest and the Levite were too good to touch a Samaritan. What does Jesus tell us to do? Luke 10:37.
(3) Honesty is a great virtue. What did the father of the son who had the dumb and deaf spirit say to Jesus that showed how honest he was? Mark 9:24.
(4) We like to give good gifts to our children. What is necessary for us to do to receive the Holy Spirit? Luke 11:13; Acts 2:38.
(5) Why was Belshazzar weighed in the balances and found wanting? Daniel 5:22-23.

GOING HOME

Going home, a welcome thought,
To one who's traveled far.
For home is where real joy and peace,
And all the treasures are...

It's where the hands reach out to help,
And word's ring out to bless.
And where the smiles are always warm,
With Love and Tenderness...

But sweeter still is God's abode,
Beyond the starry dome.
Where spirits freed shall know indeed,
The joy of — going home.

The Family

PUT GOD FIRST

Don't wait until the house is all kept,
The beds are made, the floors are swept:
Put PRAYER first.

Don't wait until the newspaper is read,
Your books are balanced, and you are in bed:
Put the BIBLE first.

Don't wait until the cupboards are bare,
There's nothing to depend on but God and prayer:
Put FASTING first.

Don't wait until the last bill is paid,
The account is large, vacation is made:
Put the CHURCH first.

Don't wait until you've nothing to do,
Until all is finished — for we never get through:
Put GOD first.

- selected by Sister Martha Shaffer

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Want and sorrow are the wages that folly earns for itself, and they are generally paid. — Schubart.

OBITUARY

EZRA BEERY

Brother Ezra Levi Beery, the son of Harvey and Ida (Heisey) Beery was born near Fairfield, Ohio, December 2, 1896. He departed this life March 21, 1980. He attended the Salem Church of the Brethren and was baptized December 2, 1911.

February 14, 1919 he married Dorothy Cassel. They lived happily together for fifty-seven years. To this union were born three children; a son deceased and two daughters, Sis. Esther Blocher and Sis. Mary Stump, both of R. 1, Union, Ohio. Eight grandchildren: Joyce Moore of Dalmatia, Pennsylvania; Dale Blocher of Red Lion, Pennsylvania; Grace Reed of Myerstown, Pennsylvania; Shirley Frick of Lewisburg, Ohio; Anna, Ella, Marie and Laura Stump of Union, Ohio; two grandchildren deceased and five great-grandchildren. Two brothers: Lawrence of Homested, Florida and Cleo of LaVerne, California. Besides nieces and nephews, Ezra knew a host of friends and acquaintances.

When the Englewood Dunkard Brethren Church was organized, they were charter members. They were installed into the Deacon's office in September 1930. Ezra remained faithful through the years to the Church and to God.

Bro. Ezra will be remembered as one of the great choristers of the church. He enjoyed times of singing with church members, family and friends. His beautiful voice will certainly be missed at our annual conferences.

In earlier years, he was a farmer and carpenter helping those who were in need. Ezra lived to be 83 years, 3 months and 19 days. Our loss is his gain!

Funeral services were conducted at the Englewood Dunkard Brethren Church on March 24, 1980 at 2:00 p.m. with Elders Edward Johnson and David Ebling officiating. Burial was at Fairview Cemetery, Englewood, Ohio.

The family wishes to express their deepest thanks to all the Brothers, Sisters and friends who offered their prayers, sympathy, cards, comfort and help in a time of need and during our sorrow in the loss of our father and grandfather.

Life that ever needs forgiveness has for its first duty to forgive.
— Bulwer.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JUNE, 1980

DEATH

Memory Verse:
It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

Sun. 1 - Luke 9:1-22
Mon. 2 - Luke 9:23-42
Tues. 3 - Luke 9:43-62
Wed. 4 - Luke 15:1-32
Thur. 5 - Luke 16:14-31
Fri. 6 - Luke 20:27-47
Sat. 7 - Luke 24:1-26

Memory Verse: Luke 16:31
And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Sun. 8 - Luke 24:27-53
Mon. 9 - John 2:1-25
Tues. 10 - John 5:1-23
Wed. 11 - John 5:24-47
Thur. 12 - John 6:1-21
Fri. 13 - John 6:22-46
Sat. 14 - John 6:47-71

Memory Verse: Luke 20:37-38
Now that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him.

Sun. 15 - John 8:37-59
Mon. 16 - John 11:1-27
Tues. 17 - John 11:28-54
Wed. 18 - John 12:1-26
Thur. 19 - John 12:27-50
Fri. 20 - John 20:1-31
Sat. 21 - John 21:1-25

Memory Verse: Luke 24:5
And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

Sun. 22 - Acts 2:1-24
Mon. 23 - Acts 2:25-47
Tues. 24 - Acts 3:1-26
Wed. 25 - Acts 4:1-22
Thur. 26 - Acts 5:1-20
Fri. 27 - Acts 5:21-42
Sat. 28 - Acts 7:1-19

Memory Verse: John 5:25
Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.

Sun. 29 - Acts 7:20-40
Mon. 30 - Acts 7:41-60

Memory Verses: John 11:25-26
Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

John 12:24
Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII JUNE 1, 1980 NO. 11

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

LOVE FOR THE CHURCH

Dear church I love thee; yes, I do,
  And may I love thee more;
To thee may I be ever true,
  Nor dare thy rules ignore.

'Tis here I find the feast is made
  Isaiah did foretell;
And here is where the servants said
  The guests should come to dwell.

Thou art the pilgrim's resting place —
  His peaceful, quiet home;
'Tis here he humbly asks for grace
  Before the Father's throne.

Dear church, I love thee; yes, I do —
  I'll hold to thine embrace;
Here smiles and mercies ever new,
  Beam through a Savior's face.

And here it is I feel secure,
  Though storms may oft arise;
And if I hold to thee, I'm sure
  To land beyond the skies.

ORGANIZATION

It is again General Conference time when Brethren and Sisters from all parts of the Brotherhood gather. Their spiritual lives will be enriched by the fellowship, the Bible-centered preaching and the opportunity to participate in the business of the Church. The encouragement that comes to each who attends will make every effort extended toward the success of this meeting worthwhile.

It is necessary to hold General Conference. The members need the fellowship of "those of like precious faith." They need the Word of God served to them by the ministering Brethren. Each may then know that his faith is not a product of his locality, but that it agrees with the faith and practice of the Brethren across the land. No less necessary, though perhaps not so enjoyable or entertaining, is the business session. Here the doctrines of the Bible are translated into practical application. Here the Church considers the questions and pleadings of her scattered members and unites them with a common answer.

The Church is not only the mystical body of Christ but a flesh-and-blood organization here on earth. Organization has always been needed, even within the Church. The Apostle Paul admonished the Brethren at Corinth to do all things "decently and in order." The disorder at Corinth made a poor witness before unbelievers and their partiality was robbing many members of blessings. These members, even at Lovefeast time, were not united as Brethren should be. They needed order and organization, such as Paul sought to introduce among them. The Church today needs the same order and organization. This comes to us through General Conference.

THE BIBLE MONITOR JUNE 1, 1980

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The members at Corinth were each going his own way. Each had his own belief or idea. They could not dwell together as Brethren very long in this condition. There had to be decency and order, which is needed today, so each member or each congregation does not pursue an individual course in belief or practice. If the Church is the Body of Christ, then like all bodies it must be agreed within itself. The various organs of the physical body can not rebel against the task each has been given, each is needed to make the body function properly. In the Church, each member and each congregation is important and necessary for the Body's welfare. All must function together, that the Church may fulfill her task. If one organ of the body is injured or diseased, the whole body suffers. The whole Church suffers when individuals rebel. We labor diligently to keep the physical body in good health. The Church also seeks health through the congregation's council and the General Conference.

Jesus demonstrated organization. When He fed the multitude, He instructed the Apostles to seat the crowd by fifties. By seating them He removed the possibility of some mobbing the ones serving. By seating them in fifties, the throng was made to look like a more manageable group. As the Apostles ministered to each small group, it didn't seem like so great a task. By seating them in fifties, it is likely that families and neighbors were able to be together, so there was less opportunity for trouble among the people. Jesus further organized this so the fragments would be gathered for the Apostles' good. Jesus never favored wastefulness, but desired rather a conservation of the good. This organization was simple but effective.

In line with her Master's example, the Church needs organization, which does not need to be comples. The leaders of the Church must be respected. There is no room in the Church for rebellion. Just as Jesus did not allow a potentially disorderly scene to develop, so the Church through her leaders and her councils must not allow disorderliness. Jesus did not permit the fragments to be wasted, neither can the Church afford to waste the teachings of the Bible. She must teach them; she must manifest them and she must be sure they are respected and implemented. If they are not carried out, they are wasted.

Each person is valued highly by God, for He paid an awful price by giving His Son. He wants each to live to please Him, which is the most beneficial course for each person. God seeks the best for each one. To obtain that best, it is necessary to submit to His will. The organized Church translates His will into practical application.

At this time of the year, may we seriously consider the purpose and work of General Conference. May we be willing to listen to her councils.

DO YOU APPRECIATE YOUR CHILDREN?

Beautiful are the words of a song that I love to hear the children sing,

"For God so loved the world,
He gave His only Son,
To die on Calvary's Tree
From sin to set me free.
Some day He's coming back,
What glory that will be!
O' Wonderful His love to me.

Do you take time with your children? Are you too busy reading a newspaper to stop a moment and listen to what your child wants? Are you too busy taking in money that you cannot spend just one hour some time during the day with your family? They say from birth to four years of age are the molding years of our little one's lives. If we cannot teach them right from wrong and are only around when they have done wrong, we had better turn ourselves around and see where we've missed our path of training our children aright. We cannot wait till our children are three and one half years old to teach them to not talk back or to share their toys.

A father brought home a surprise kitty in his truck one day. Mother told her daughter, "Daddy could bring in kitty, so she could see it after dinner." Well, dinner was over, mother patiently waited, while Daddy went into the room to read a paper. After a half hour had gone by, Daddy was up on his feet at the noise of a man's car that appeared in the driveway for business. Another hour went by and the little girl kept asking mother, "When is Daddy bringing in the kitty?" She was so happy to see the new kitty after waiting for such a long time. I believe children have more patience than we adults have at a certain time in their lives. Our childrens' lives are too precious to waste by sitting in our easy chair and hoping the children would go play, so we would have time to read. We should plan our hours to sit and read after our children are in bed or when we rise at the beginning of the day.

I know there are days when we as parents are busy in the midst of something and cannot leave that very minute to read a book, play ball or set up dollies. We should then let them know that we will help them after we have finished our work. Don't forget what you have told them and stick to your promise! There have been a few times when I myself have forgotten and what an awful feeling it is. Saying "I'm sorry" to your child is only proper at this time and will strengthen you as well as teach your child forgiveness. "Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged." Col. 3:21.

Encourage your children in their development in life, seek to uncover their hidden talents, offer gentle guidance towards pathways of useful service. Take time to enjoy your children and to appreciate each one individually. Take a portion of your day to read a story, even if you have read it for the second time that day. Sing songs with them or to them. Tell them of Jesus.

Teach them to pray. Don't laugh and giggle when they make a mistake. Be sincere and let them know you want to help them. We should never ignore our children's questions. When they ask, we should be prompt and give them a good answer as best as we know how. If we are slow at answering, or slow in coming when called, we can be sure our children will do the same.

Teach your children LOVE. Teach them manners at home. Teach them the importance of keeping their toys in specified areas of the home, and to pick up their clothes. Neatness will not get us to Heaven, but it definitely goes with our everyday living. The Bible speaks of a home being swept and garnished. If we are sloppy in our personal matters, then we tend to be sloppy in spiritual matters. Certainly a child will rise up when he is older and thank his parents for teaching him right from wrong. Children are "... to shew piety at home and to requite their parents; for that is good and acceptable before God." I Tim. 5:4

No matter who the child may be
And no matter what his boast,
An understanding parent
Is what he needs the most.

A child does not need wealth or toys
Or mansions great and tall;
Just give him your attention
And a bit of love, that's all.

When he comes to you for knowledge,
Don't push him from your side;
Have a little patience with him —
Be pleased to be his guide.

Listen to his troubles,
His heartaches — trials at school;
Be firm, but teach him gently
To live by the Golden Rule.

When years fly by, and he is grown,
You'll surely be the one
To hear these words sincerely said:
"I'm glad to be your son/daughter."

Give praise where praise is due. I came across an article I would like to share with you.

A WORD TO PARENTS

"I got two A's," the small boy cried,
His voice was filled with glee.
His father very bluntly asked,
"Why didn't you get three?"
"Mom, I've got the dishes done!"
The girl called from the door.
Her mother very calmly said,
"And did you sweep the floor?"
"I've mowed the grass," the tall boy said,
"And put the mower away!"
His father asked him, with a shrug,
"Did you clean off the clay?"
The children in the house next door
Seemed happy and content
The same things happened over there,
But this is how it went:
"I got two A's," the small boy cried,
His voice was filled with glee.
His father proudly said, "That is great!
I'm glad you live with me!"
"Mom, I've got the dishes done!"
The girl called from the door.
Her mother smiled and softly said,
"Each day I love you more."
"I've mowed the grass," the tall boy said,
"And put the mower away!"
His father answered with much joy,
"You've made my happy day!"
Children deserve a little praise
For tasks they are asked to do.
If they are to lead a happy life,
So much depends on you.

Family rearing is not for the mother or father alone. The work load should be balanced so both can raise these little ones together. Build your homes together; forgive and be forgiven. Smile and you will certainly receive a smile in return.

"And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men..." I Thess. 3:12. To abound in love is what keeps a home together. There are four things a united home must have: 1) Compassion, 2) Love, 3) Pity, 4) Courtesy to all members of the family. A home should be more than a house, fabric or bread. Our homes should be a place for the soul, a retreat from rush, conflict and hurt; a place warm with love, security and trust.

Might we be united in our homes so that our children might profit by our examples. Might we be a true follower of Christ letting our light shine brightly each day we are permitted to live here on earth. God help us to not neglect our duty that God has given to us to raise up our children aright for God. We have a wonderful but serious responsibility!

Sister Shirley Frick

PERFECT PEACE

Peace of heart, peace of mind, peace with those around us — these are some of the types of peace. We have peace when we've taken care of a matter, such as paying our taxes, then our minds can be at rest. We have peace with our neighbors and families when we get along well. When nations aren't fighting, they are at peace, at least on the surface. God's Word encourages us to live in peace, but peace with our fellow man is not enough. Perfect peace is available to God's own and until we have it, all other peace is superficial.

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:11. There must first be peace with God in order to have true peace in other ways. This peaceful relationship with God is obtained through Christ, by faith in His redemptive power. Peace with God brings peace of heart, the kind of peace which many people seek for and never find because they leave Christ out. When our relationship with Him is not right, we can only have a disturbed heart and life.

Once we have the peace of God in our hearts, it is to rule us. "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful." Col. 3:15. Anger, selfishness and such like are not to rule our hearts and lives anymore, once we have chosen to follow Christ. We are to put off the sins listed in Col. 3:5-9, then put on the Christian graces listed in verses 12-17, so peace can rule. A sinful life is a selfish life; peace cannot exist where sin reigns.

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27. Along with salvation (peace with God), Jesus gives us a very special peace, which enables us to face life without a troubled and distressed heart. We may have all sorts of troubles and trials, but whatever comes, we have the peace of Jesus to keep us from despair.

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:7. There is no way to explain to anyone how or why you are at peace when

you have many reasons to be greatly distressed. When you have God's peace, you can't understand it any better than you can explain it, but you know it's there — you can feel it. Others know it's there, because they see evidence of God's peace in your life. People desire peace and your inner peace helps to point people to Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Being peaceable is a Christian responsibility. "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men." Rom. 12:18. "Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another." Mark 9:50b. We can't harbor a disagreeable and angry spirit, and still have peace with ourselves or anyone else. Peace and a loving, considerate spirit dwell together. God doesn't expect unbelievers to live peaceably, but He does expect His own to not only be peaceable but to also be peacemakers.

"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hyprocrisy." James 3:17. A peaceable spirit is evidence of Godly wisdom. This is the kind of wisdom we must have if we are to be peacemakers. If our own lives don't manifest Godly wisdom, how can we expect others to accept our help when they have a disagreement?

Jesus said His peace is a gift which He leaves with us. It is given to keep both our hearts and minds from dispair. Once we have this peace, we certainly want to keep it. Yet there are times when believers are not at peace as they should be. There is a key to being at peace, a way to retain that power within our lives. That key is trust. God has made promises to us, that He would take care of us, that He would answer our prayers both for ourselves and others. Our part is to trust Him to keep His promises.

"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." "Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him." (Read Psa. 37:3-7.) Trust and peace go together; looking to the Lord is the connecting link. When problems loom up before you, look beyond them to God and His power to work things out. Trust, commit, rest, wait — not in turmoil — but wait patiently. Then you will really know what it means to be kept in God's peace. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusteth in thee." Isa. 26:3.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
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Humanity is never so beautiful as when praying for forgiveness, or else forgiving another. — Richter.

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"I WANT TO HEAR: I WANT TO TALK"

Matt. 15:29-31; Mark 7:31-37

It was a beautiful day. The birds were singing and the sun shining. Lake Galilee was a blue expanse of water, pleasant to look upon. The breezes coming off the water were cool and soothing to a weary traveler.

Jesus was near the Sea of Galilee in the land of Decapolis. He was teaching and healing people. Great multitudes came to Him to be cured of all manner of diseases. There were lame people, blind people, deaf people, mute people, lepers and many, many others. Jesus healed them all. No wonder people came to Him by the thousands. What would people do today if there were someone who could heal them of any malady. I'm sure they would go to that person just as they did when Jesus was here. Today we pay doctors a lot of money to get well when we are sick. Sometimes they help us and sometimes they don't, but we pay just the same. Jesus didn't charge a cent and He always made them well again. Everyone who came to Jesus was made perfectly whole.

There was a man in the multitude who couldn't hear or talk right. He was tongue-tied. His tongue couldn't form words correctly and it was hard for him to make people understand. He couldn't hear the birds sing and he couldn't hear Jesus. The man looked on as Jesus healed others and thought to himself, "I want to hear. I want to talk like other people. Will Jesus heal me?"

The man had friends who brought him to Jesus and begged Jesus to put His hand upon him. When Jesus touched people, they got well. Just a touch of the Master's hand was all that was needed. But this time Jesus did something different. He took the deaf and mute man and led him away from the crowd of people. Then Jesus put His fingers in the man's ears and spit and touched the man's tongue. Jesus looked up to Heaven and said, "Be opened." Do you know what happened? The man could hear Jesus just like anyone else and he could talk plainly too. It was a happy day for that man. He could hear the birds and tell others all about it. His friends didn't have to motion to him with their hands. He could hear and speak.

If you can hear and talk, you should thank God for it. It is only because of God that we can live, move and have our being. He has given us eyes to see, ears to hear, a tongue to talk with, the senses of smell and touch. We cannot begin to understand how God created us to enjoy the blessings of life. God wants us to live for Him. Without God you are deaf and tongue-tied spiritually, but He can make you hear and speak. He will control your life, if you let Him.

Brother Rudy Cover

THE REALITY OF RESTORATION

In The Acts 3:20-21 we read, "And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive UNTIL THE TIMES OF RESTITUTION OF ALL THINGS, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began." The dictionary definition of the word "restitution" is the "act of restoring."

There has been many and varied interpretations of this verse of scripture and we feel that false teaching has resulted because of some of these interpretations. It is our hope that the Holy Spirit may guide our thinking as we think upon this subject.

Our study must start at the very first verse of the Bible. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." The Hebrew word for "God" that is used here is "Elohim." According to the "Pictorial Bible Dictionary," "Elohim" is plural in form but is singular in construction (used with a singular verb or adjective). It is also interesting to note that this word is the most frequent Hebrew word for "God" (over twenty-five hundred times in the Old Testament). Then in the first part of Genesis 1:26 we read, "And God said, Let us make man in OUR image, after OUR likeness:" then in verse 27, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." We believe the scriptures teach a triune (three in one) God. I John 5:7, "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." (We are aware of the fact that some translations do not include this verse of scripture but we feel the Holy Spirit led the King James Version translators to include it.) As we study the first chapter of St. John we find, the "Word" is Jesus Christ. We believe that when God made man in His image He created him a triune being, body, soul (mind) and spirit.

In Genesis 1:31 we read, "And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day." We feel that, "it was very good" could be translated, "it was perfect." Then in Genesis 3:17-19, we find that God cursed the ground and told man, he will return to dust. In Ecclesiastes 12:7 we read, "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." Then in Matthew 10:28 we read, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." We find that both the soul and spirit are eternal parts of man but that the body returns to dust. Therefore death is a separation of body from soul and spirit.

God has promised throughout scripture that one day He will restore the earth to its perfect form as it was before the fall of man. Many Bible-believing Christians believe this will take place at the second coming of Jesus Christ. We believe that all nature including both animal and plant form will return to a perfect state. We feel that all mankind will be restored to their perfect form as at creation. That is man will again be body, soul, and spirit. Both the saved and unsaved will be given this "gift of restoration." However, we do not believe the scriptures teach that all mankind will be allowed to enter Heaven. The Bible teaches in many places that the unsaved will be in Hell forever. We will quote two references. St. Matthew 25:41, "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into EVERLASTING fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:" Rev. 20:10, 15, "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

We do not profess to know or understand all the minute details of this restoration. But all the redeemed can look forward to that described in Rev. 21:1, "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea."

Let us affirm along with Job (19:26), "And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God."

Brother James M. Hite
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WHY ART THOU LEAN?

"Why are thou, being the king's son, lean from day to day?" In II Samuel 13:4 we find this question being asked of Amnon, David's son. Amnon had a big problem — he loved his sister Tamar, but he thought it hard to do anything to her. Verses 3-4, "But Amnon had a friend, whose name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah, David's brother: and Jonadab was a very subtil man. And he said unto him, Why art thou, being the king's son, lean from day to day? wilt thou not tell me? And Amnon said unto him, I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister." So we find Amnon told his friend why he was lean and his friend came up with an answer for him. Jonadab didn't have a very good solution to the problem, nevertheless it satisfied Amnon's desire, so he accepted it. He told Amnon to pretent he was sick and lay on his bed. Then when David came to see him, he was to say to David that he wanted his sister Tamar to give him

meat and to dress it in his sight, and then eat it at her hand. So this is what Amnon did. Verse 8, "So Tamar went to her brother Amnon's house; and he was laid down. And she took flour, and kneaded it, and made cakes in his sight, and did bake the cakes." Then we find she poured them out before him, but he refused to eat. Amnon told all the men to go out, which they did. He told his sister to bring the meat to him, which she did. What did he do, but grab hold of her and told her to lie with him. Verse 12, "And she answered him, Nay, my brother, do not force me; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel; do not thou this folly." Did he take heed to what she said? No! Verse 14, "Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice: but, being stronger than she, forced her, and lay with her." Here we see Amnon trying to fulfill that sinful desire which he had. But if we read on, we find that this caused him to hate her more than what he had loved her. Jonadab gave Amnon th wrong kind of encouragement. Amnon committed fornication. Amnon paid for it later with death. This account should be a great lesson to each and every one, especially the young folks. Fornication is one big reason for leanness.

I Cor. 6:13, "Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body." This verse tells us that the body is for the Lord, not for fornication. Fornication should not be named among us as saints of God. Fornication is sinning against your own body. I Cor. 6:18-19, "Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"

Dear young people, take this scripture to heart and realize what it is saying. Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Ghost which we have of God and we are not our own. Fornication is gross sin. Keeping pure is so much more valuable. I am afraid sometimes people get the idea, "Oh well, God will forgive us for it so let's enjoy it and then repent of it." Beware! That is very dangerous thinking. A pure wife will mean even more to you in the future than the fornication now. Be strong, young people, stand up for Jesus and you will never regret it. Don't do anything that would lead you into fornication, before you even realize what you did. The music of today encourages fornication. Have no part in the rock music and country-western songs. They are also reasons for leanness in the spiritual life. Going to movies, bowling alleys, and such places cause leanness of the spirit. In your courting days, do things of value so that in later years you can look back without being ashamed of your conduct. Study the Bible together, pray together;

you will be blessed for it. Going to carnivals, plays, farm-shows, and the like will increase leanness. Even going to so-called Gospel concerts, I believe, should not be named among us.

Another thing that can cause leanness is the material we read. Do we read love stories, westerns, comics, and sex books, and all that garbage? If we do, it will be a means of causing leanness. I truly believe, we must even watch the so-called Christian books. Some of them are very deceiving. There are some good books, but let's keep away from the trash for our own good.

Working can cause leanness in our spiritual life. We all know that we must work; it's our duty to make a living. I Tim. 5:8, "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." But let's not get mixed up and think that's all we must do. I truly believe, we can get to the place where we work, work, work, and forget about the spiritual life. Sometimes it seems there is just a little bit too much love of money. That verse also means providing for the spiritual needs of our family and others. Let's not forget that part also. A lot of the time, I believe, we just want too much. We can get too selfish and want for ourselves, but forget others. Therefore, it causes leanness. Along with the thought of working, we should not be a part of union shops.

Jealousy is a cause of leanness. Being jealous of someone because they hold a certain office in the Church is bad business. We find Saul was jealous of David. In I Samuel 18:7 we read, "And the woman answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands." One thing plus another and another made Saul jealous to the point that he even wanted to kill David. Jealousy can cause hate which is also a cause of leanness. I John 3:15, "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him." We think it is terrible if someone kills another and rightly so, but if we hate our brother we are doing the same. That's pretty serious. If we have any hate among us, we had better get things in order or there will be some great disappointments.

I John 4:20, "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" This tells us that if we say we love God and hate our brother we are a liar. Lying is another cause of leanness. Rev. 21:8 says, "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." Lying about our income tax, lying about someone else in order to get ourselves "off the hook," lying to get out of a situation, all will cause leanness.

Lack of communication with God will cause leanness. Neglecting to assemble ourselves together more often will cause leanness. It would be sad if there were a vote taken to see whether we wanted more services or not, and the majority didn't want more. I guess we're afraid church might interfere with our worldly pursuits. What is wrong with us. Are we so lean already that there is no more hope? Would to God we'd get into the bottle of spiritual vitamins and get back our strength to serve the God of Heaven, instead of the god of this world. We have time to go to ballgames, time to play volleyball, time for all things except time for the Lord. Shame on us if that is the case.

We could go on and on naming things that cause leanness to the spiritual life, but let us each ask ourselves the question, "Am I lean?" "And if I am, what is the reason?" Then let's ask God to give us strength to overcome and go forth serving the Lord with all our might. Matt. 22:37, "... Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all my soul, and with all thy mind."

Love in Christ,
Brother Ray L. Stuber

MARRIAGES

STUMP - ST. JOHN

Sister Anna Stump, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Paul Stump, Union, Ohio and Bro. Rick St. John, son of Bro. and Sis. Clifford St. John, Stryker, Ohio were united in marriage April 12, 1980 by Bro. Dennis St. John. The wedding was held at the Brookside Community Center, Brookville, Ohio, where Rick and Anna pledged their vows to God and to each other. The happy couple are making their home at Route #1, Stryker, Ohio 43557.

KUTZ - NOECKER

Sis. Marie Kutz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Kutz, Pine Grove, Pennsylvania and Bro. Daniel Noecker, son of Bro. and Sis. Daniel Noecker, Sr., were united in marriage April 19, 1980 at the Frystown Dunkard Brethren Church by Bro. Kenneth Wolfe. Bro. David Kegerreis conducted the opening services. The couple will reside at R. 1, Bethel, Pennsylvania 19507.

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Bro. Alvin Chupp is R. 2, Dallas Center, Iowa 50063.

DIRECTORY OF INFORMATION CHANGE

For information pertaining to Broadwater Chapel Congregation, please contact: Don Beeman, 1035 National Highway, LaVale, Maryland 21502. Telephone number: 301-729-2233.

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation enjoyed another lovefeast, April 27, with a good attendance. Visiting ministers throughout the day were: Jacob Ness, Laverne Keeney, Allen Eberly and Jack Snyder.

Elder Laverne Keeney officiated at the evening services.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank all who have shown kindness toward us during a dark and difficult time. We received over three hundred cards and letters, many gifts, telephone calls and more thoughts and prayers than we can count. We feel very unworthy of so much consideration, but it certainly helps to know so many are willing to share our burden.

We do not wish to complain but at times pain and despair drove us into a very dark corner, but some how we found the strength to face each new day. Now we know where that strength came from — your prayers, my friends!

We feel deep regret that we have become something of a burden and we pray God will bless you many times over for all the help you have been to us.

We ask that you may still remember us when you talk to God. We still desperately need His Hand upon us for I hope I can soon go back to work and fulfill my duties again.

Bro. Leonard Wampler
and family

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII JUNE 15, 1980 NO. 12

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

AND THEN IT WILL BE TOO LATE

There once was a sinner tossed on life's sea,
Sinking in the depths of despair.
An infidel, an atheist, a reprobate was he,
With head held with so haughty an air.
"I'll make it through life on my own," said he,
"I have death only to fear."

And so on and on through life went he,
Without yielding to God a hair.
'Till one night in a ship on a stormy sea
He realized that he must prepare.
So he prayed to the Lord in that storm-tossed ship,
And became a new man indeed.

But, oh sinner, do not wait!
Because it may become too late.
For if you do, you might find yourself
Outside the pearly gate....
...And then it will be **too** late.

Paul David Skiles
Torreon Navajo Mission

HISTORY

The past is recorded for today and tomorrow in the pages of history. Here are recorded the events, dates, places and men which have affected our day. While history speaks of men and their works, it is really His Story. The events, that men assume that they have shaped, are really in the Hand of God. Thus, the history of this world is the story of His dealings with mankind in love, care, discipline and wrath.

Recently there has been an awakened interest in history and for things that are old. For many this interest may be more financial than a real appreciation of their historical value. For others, this regard may more aptly be considered sentimentality or nostalgia. They look backward with a wistful eye, seeing a supposedly better time in which they would desire to have lived. For some, this interest is an appreciation of the relationship of the past to the present. Our today is a product of our yesterdays. We can appreciate history as a teacher and guardian. From history we learn of God's past dealings with man. We also learn of our Christian forefathers' efforts in establishing, spreading and preserving Christianity. In recent years, Brethren people have become interested in their heritage. This interest has spawned the research and writing necessary for the publication of the Brethren Encyclopedia. This historical and doctrinal account will provide a glimpse into the past labors of our forefathers and a chance to see where they erred and where they succeeded. Not only will we be able to get a glimpse of those long gone from the scene of action, but we will be able to see ourselves and compare how well we are continuing in the spreading and preserving of Christianity.

THE BIBLE MONITOR JUNE 15, 1980

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Does history have value for you and me? Is it a help in the Spiritual warfare? Some have said that the past is past and is of no value to us. Yet we find in the New Testament many allusions to history. There are many allusions to the failures of the Jews as God's People. Jesus and others constantly speak of their failure to continue faithful, their lust for the things of the world and their abuse of God's true servants. Also the success of some of the faithful are pointed out as patterns and encouragements for the Christian to follow. God does not consider history to be valueless.

Our interest in looking back must go beyond mere sentimentality. It must also go beyond facts and personalities. We must desire the lessons that are available for our Spiritual benefit. Therein lies the real value of history. If we, today, can be encouraged or warned by the events and lives of past decades and centuries, then history has fulfilled its mission as a help to our Spiritual lives.

Not only in the plant and animal kingdom but also in the moral sphere, there is a law that has operated since the creation. This law states that like produces like. We expect apples on an apple tree. We expect wheat in the wheat field. We expect a calf to be born of the cow. So we can expect like conditions to produce like results in the Spiritual realm. God's law is: whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. This is true spiritually. If sin brings a harvest of heartache and loss in one generation, the same sin will bring the same hurt in another generation. The nature of man has remained unchanged since the time of Adam and Eve. The Word of God is also unchangeable so it is unavoidable that the events of one age will be reproduced in another. Here is where history may prove to be our helper. If we can analyze the past, to see what conditions produced what results, then we can seek to reproduce favorable conditions and to avoid the unfavorable.

If history tells us of unwise changes made in the past and we are on the verges of similar changes, we will be forewarned to make different choices so we will not suffer the same consequences. This behooves us to be vigilante. We must make sure that our hindsight which can see the mistakes of past generations also produces foresight enough to avoid these same mistakes. History should awaken us to action that we do not idly sit by while the errors of the past are repeated. To merely recognize the sins of the past is not enough, we must use that knowledge to keep those errors in the past and not allow them into our present.

The record of the past is available to us, it is for our benefit. May we as individuals, as congregations and as a Brotherhood look carefully at that record and take care that the failures of the past are not repeated in our present and future.

There is value in history, as encouragement or as warning. Have you studied the lessons of the past?

A LETTER

Dear Friend,

I just had to send a note to tell you how much I love you and care about you. I saw you yesterday as you were walking with your friends. I waited all day hoping you would want to talk with me also. As evening drew near, I gave you a sunset to close your day and a cool breeze to rest you. And I waited. But you never came. It hurt me, but I still love you because I am your friend.

I saw you fall asleep last night and I longed to touch your brow. So, I spilled moonlight on your pillow and your face. Again I waited, wanting to rush down so that we could talk. I have so many gifts for you. But you awakened late the next day and rushed off to work. My tears were in the rain.

Today you looked so sad, so all alone. It makes my heart ache because I understand. My friends let me down and hurt me so many times, too. But I love you. Oh, if you would only listen to me. I really love you. I try to tell you in the blue sky and in the quiet green grass. I whisper it in the leaves on the trees and breathe it in the colors of the flowers. I shout it to you in the mountain streams and give the birds love songs to sing. I clothe you with warm sunshine and perfume the air with nature's scents. My love for you is deeper than the oceans and bigger than the biggest want or need in your heart.

If you only knew how much I want to help you. I want you to meet my Father. He wants to help you, too. My Father is that way, you know. Just call me, ask me, talk with me. Please, please, don't forget me. I have so much to share with you. But, I won't hassle you any further. You are free to call me. It's up to you. I'll wait because I love you.

Your friend,
Jesus Christ, Son of God
— Selected

A SORRY COMBINATION

One Sunday during a worship service, I sat beside a rather unkempt girl. I first noticed her very black fingernails, then her dirty hands. Her sweater was soiled, her hose mud-spattered. Her dress and shoes were the only apparently clean items. She had made an attempt at making herself presentable, but had neglected the most basic part — personal cleanliness. A clean dress on a dirty body make a sorry combination.

A pleasant, neat outward appearance over a sin-soiled heart is also a sorry combination. You may think you are all set with a good appearance, even one which indicates reverence for God, but what

you do for yourself is never enough. You can't clean your sinful self up, you can't cover your sinful self up with the right clothes, the right words or deeds. Spiritual cleanliness requires starting with the basics also. This is strictly a job for the Lord.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17. When Jesus comes into your heart, things happen from the inside out. He doesn't clean up your outside first, but He starts in your heart, where the real problem is. Jesus always starts with the basics. This means giving you a new heart. The new attitudes and desires He gives replace the old ones of self-righteousness and self-love. When Christ's love and mercy truly touch your heart, you'll never be the same again.

Jesus said to Peter, "But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." Luke 22:32. Peter had a sorry combination of being in the Lord's presence, the right place to be, yet he was ignorant of his own weaknesses and need of the Lord. He was so sure of himself and thought he was even ready to die for the Lord, but he soon discovered that he couldn't help himself, let alone help anyone else. We cannot help anyone either until we've been helped ourselves.

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so ye outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity." Matt. 23:27-28. Those sepulchres looked nice, but a peek inside told the real story. There was no life there, just a bunch of old bones. Looking righteous on the outside in appearance, actions and deeds doesn't always reveal your true character. The scribes and Pharisees were labeled hypocrites by Jesus, and if your righteousness doesn't exceed theirs, if your heart is a sorry mess like theirs, you're a hypocrite, too.

Jesus expects something more than a good appearance; that's why He starts with our heart. This basic cleansing must come first, as our own efforts of reform would just look like the unkempt girl—a sorry combination. In I Sam. 16:7b, the Lord said, "For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." The Lord hasn't changed, neither have people. We still have a tendency to try to cover up our sinfulness, thinking maybe no one will know, but we can't hide it from God.

"Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment." John 7:24. The Jews had been finding fault with something good which Jesus had done. They were not consistent because they were looking on the surface, as well as judging

according to their own rules. To them, it didn't look good. When you observe someone, you must look beyond whatever you see on the outside to see what motivates that one. There is more to be considered than the externally visible things. This true character is in the person's heart. It is hard for us to judge righteously because we jump to conclusions while ignoring what's in someone's heart. It is wise to watch and think carefully, before you decide what's good and what's bad.

We are to "Abstain from all appearance of evil" (I Thess. 5:22), but that does not save us. It is a sorry combination to have a good appearance and a Christless heart. "That ye may have somewhat to answer them which glory in appearance, and not in heart." II Cor. 5:12b. Too often we stress the appearance and think that if something appears good, it is good clear to the heart. The truth is if the heart is not good, cleansed by the Lord, the appearance is not truly good either, and sooner or later, the true character will reveal itself.

If you have asked the Lord to save you, ask Him to make you what He wants you to be. It is a sorry combination to change on the surface while holding on to your old ways. Trying to cover up a sin-soiled heart with a good appearance won't fool anyone except yourself. An unkind heart, an unloving heart is not a cleansed heart, so take what Jesus has for you; let Him cleanse your heart. Then you'll have a right combination — cleanliness inside and out.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

HOW MUCH CONTROL DOES THE DEVIL HAVE OVER US?

He keeps us strapped in our chairs when it comes to visiting a sick person in the hospital or singing at the Old Folks Home, yet pops the springs right out from under us when there's a ballgame nearby or the farm show is in town.

He ties our tongue when we should witness to the next-door neighbor or say an encouraging word to our Brother, yet we can say so much about someone whom we don't think very highly of.

He makes it so hard to memorize Bible verses, yet we know all the words to the latest song on the radio after hearing it a few times.

He gives us so little time to study the Bible and read the Monitor, yet we can read the newspaper through daily or read an "exciting" novel from cover to cover in one day.

He makes us feel too tired to spend even fifteen minutes in family worship, yet we can play a game all evening without getting bored.

He keeps our feet firmly planted when volunteers are needed at

church, but wer're quick to respond to a new business opportunity, especially if it means a raise in pay.

He keeps us in bed so long on a Sunday morning that we are late for Church, yet through the week we start work two hours earlier and manage to get there on time.

He ties our hands when the offering basket passes by, yet we have money for new cars, motorcycles, snowmobiles — just about anything we want.

He makes it hard to concentrate on the sermon — by making our minds wander from events of last week to those upcoming; or even worse, by talking and laughing with the person beside us.

He closes our eyes to all the good, pure, and true things within the Church, and makes us see faults, quarrels, and problems.

He keeps our ears tuned to the radio, stereo, or 8-track most of the time, so we don't have time to meditate or have a chance of hearing if God does speak to us.

Are we at ease in Zion? What are we giving priority? Luke 16:13 says, "No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." So, who are we serving? It's time we say, as Jesus did, "Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." Luke 4:8.

Love in Christ
Sister Delores Stuber

CAN THE PLAIN PEOPLE HAVE AN EFFECTIVE WITNESS TODAY?

We as Christians, known as the plain people take seriously Rom. 12:2, "And be not conformed to this world: But be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect, will of God," and make it a part of our living. This is in part what Jesus meant in "denying ourself and following Him." We also call this the simple life, by not following the changeable, ungodly, fashions and fads of the world which do not honor God. Jesus came to set this example. We have a scripture that warns us not to lose the simplicity which is in Christ. II Cor. 11:3. Few people accept this doctrine of separation in II Cor. 6:17-18 ("Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters saith the Lord almighty."), choosing rather to look, act, and live like the crowd.

Some people think that the New Testament is a book of doctrines that are optional (take it or leave it), but this is not true. There is purpose in the New Testament doctrines for our lives and they can be effective for us and others, but only when we are willing to adhere to its commands and teachings. Jesus said in Matt. 7:24, "Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock." Also in Matt. 28:20, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I command you", and we have the promise of His presence ever with us. Jesus said, "If you love me, keep my commandments." We surely want to love Jesus. Whether Paul, Peter, James or John wrote the scriptures, it is the same as if they were all written by Jesus Himself, as Paul says, "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you." Jesus said in John 13:20, "He that receiveth whomsoever I send, receiveth me." Inside the cover of each New Testament is written these words, "New Testament of our Lord and Saviour", and that means His last will and testament which came right after His death. Heb. 9:15-17. We read in James 1:22, "But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

We believe our fathers were prompted by the Holy Spirit to set guidelines of dress. As long as the majority accepted and adhered to this unified way, the Church of the Brethren grew in numbers and they were people with strong convictions. We do not dress different than the world to be saved. Our salvation was taken care of at Calvary, Mark 16:16 says, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Also in Eph. 2:8, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." When Jesus gives a command, He also promises a blessing for keeping it -- John 13:17, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." This can be applied to any of His doctrines, and who doesn't want to be happy?

If we dress different than the world does, then our actions must also correspond. We do this by faith. All things should be done with charity and with the right attitude. The Sermon on the Mount gives us a good outline in Matt. 5:3-9 to be humble (but not proud of our humility), to always be sorry for sin and quickly make them right with God each day, to be meek, to always hunger and thirst after righteousness (right living), to be merciful (have compassion on others), to be pure in heart (honest and clean words), and also to be peaceable as much as we can. Then we will be effective, as salt, and will be lights in a dark and sinful world. No man lighteth a candle, and putteth it under a bushel, but on a candlestick. Matt. 5:16, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your father which is in heaven."

Since we do not wear plain clothes to be saved, the real purpose is that our life might be more effective for Christ and His Church. In doing this it will harmonize with the teachings of the whole New Testament: such as, II Cor. 3:2-3, "Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men." We believe our forefathers came to these conclusions by reading and studying the Gospel, so it really means, we can say that this is the Gospel showing outside. In II Cor. 4:3 it says, "But if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost;" and if we love the Lord, we should have concerns for others that they might be saved.

Now that many reject this doctrine of separation, our denomination is steadily losing ground in numbers and in convictions. We are now living in a day when people will not "endure sound doctrine" II Tim. 4:3, and it becomes necessary to encourage the brethren and sisters to take a stand on these things, with real purpose. Rev. 3:2, "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die."

We have the scripture for women to have their hair long and covered in I Cor. 11:1-15. This gives them power with God and His blessing, and it is also a silent testimony to everyone who sees them. In our day there will be those who will laugh at keeping these things, but women can rejoice that they are counted worthy of this and God will help. We as men should be man enough not to let the women do all this alone, especially since the women are spoken of in the Bible as the "weaker vessels." This is why we too should carry a mark of separation; that, if they laugh at our wives for the way they dress, they can also laugh at us and we too can receive the blessing that comes from being put to shame. Acts 5:41, "Rejoicing that they are counted worthy to suffer shame for his name."

Our congregation . . . has a church ruling that women have long hair and have it properly covered. This will be power on her head because of the angels, (who watch over all of us) and also give power to the Church. Thank God for guarding angels, I Cor. 11:10. We encourage men to wear the plain garb, . . . We discourage men wearing the mustache, unless they wear the beard with it, and also that their hair be not too long according to God's Word, I Cor. 11:14 "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?" We discourage women wearing slacks or short dresses, but rather they be dressed in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array." We know that the Bible says that man looketh on the outward appearance and God looketh on the heart. Why, if our heart is right in God's sight, we will want to obey His commands as to our appearance, and

otherwise. If the world is not ashamed of their outlandish fads and fashions, why should we be ashamed to dress in a way that we know pleases God? Luke 9:26, "For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels." We know God's blessing will be upon those who willingly respect and adhere to the wishes of the Church and the teachings of the Bible.

Plain clothes are more expensive than the ordinary ones because they are not made on the production lines. We are told in God's Word that following Christ does not come easy or cheap, so it can be expected that there will be some sacrifice to be made for an effective witness. Our effectiveness in these matters may never be seen or realized by us, but if done by faith and love for humanity, God will take care of that part; for, in keeping the New Testament doctrines from the heart, and with real purpose, we will receive the "abundant life" which brings joy unspeakable. 'Being effective" in our silent witness by appearance, means the same to the church as, for example — the Goodyear sign that is put on the outside of their tire factories and printed on each tire for identification, is bound to promote sales, if the tires prove to be good!

Since many of us are too timid to approach a person about their soul, and let them know of the saving power of Jesus Christ, we can at least be a silent witness of Christ by our appearance. When we see Jesus face to face, we will realize as never before that it paid to live a life devoted to Him and His Word. After all, it will be His Word that will judge us in that day. John 12:48, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

Yes, we do believe that the plain people can have an effective witness today. Rom. 12:9 . . . "Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good."

Selected by Sister Ruth Drake

If any young man expects without faith, without thought, without study, without patient, preserving labor, in the midst of and in spite of discouragement, to attain anything in this world that is worth attaining, he will simply wake up, by-and-by, and find that he has been playing the part of a fool. —M. J. Savage.

NO NEED TO FEAR

In Isaiah 41:10 we read, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God. I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

God has a strong reserve with which to discharge this engagement; for He is able to do all things. Believer, till you can drain dry the ocean of omnipotence, till you can break into pieces the towering mountains of almighty strength, you never need to fear.

Think not that the strength of man shall ever be able to overcome the power of God. While the earth's huge pillars stand, you have enough reason to abide firm in your faith. The same God who directs the earth in its orbit, who feeds the burning furnace of the sun, and trims the lamps of heaven, has promised to supply you with daily strength. While He is able to uphold the universe, dream not that He will prove unable to fulfill His own promises.

Remember what He did in the days of old, in the former generations. Remember how He spoke and how it was done; how He commanded, and it stood fast. Shall He that created the world grow weary? He hangs the world upon nothing; shall He who does this be unable to support His children? Shall He be unfaithful to His word for want of power?

Who is it that restrains the tempest? Does not He ride upon the wings of the wind, and make the clouds His chariots, and hold the ocean in the hollow of His hand? How can He fail you? When He has put such a faithful promise as this on record, will you for a moment indulge the thought that He has outpromised Himself, and gone beyond His power to fulfill? Ah, no! You can doubt no longer.

"Oh, You who are my God and my strength, I can believe that this promise shall be fulfilled, for the boundless reservoir of Your grace can never be exhausted, and the overflowing storehouse of Your strength can never be emptied by Your friends or rified by Your enemies." —C. H. Spurgeon.

Selected by Brother Willard Beam

Happy those who knowing they are subject to uncertain changes, are prepared and armed for either fortune; a rare principle, and with much labor learned in wisdom's school.
— Massinger.

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

FOUR THOUSAND PEOPLE IN THE WILDERNESS

Matt. 15:32-39; Mark 8:1-10

The desert is a place where there is very little to eat. In our country the desert is a course, rocky soil where cactus and plants that can grow without water are abundant. Cacti have thorns and stickers on them and if you touch them you wish you hadn't. The desert is usually hot and dry. I suppose the deserts in Palestine were very much like those in California. If it were near a lake of water it wouldn't be so bad.

Jesus was in a desert or wilderness near the Sea of Galilee. People followed wherever He went. They didn't care where. They wanted to be with Jesus — to hear Him speak the wonderful words of life and to see Him heal the sick. Sometimes Jesus was so busy healing people that He didn't have time to eat. Jesus may have been trying to go into the desert to get away from the people, so He and His disciples could eat and rest. They went for three days and still they followed. I suppose nearly everyone had taken some lunch along but after three days the food was gone and the people were hungry. Walking in the desert takes a lot of energy so the people were beginning to get weak. If they had to return for food, it would have taken three days more. Many would have fainted.

Jesus said, "I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me three days and have nothing to eat; and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way."

The disciples said, "Where could we get so much bread in the wilderness, as to fill so great a multitude?" Jesus said, "How many loaves have you?" And they said, "Seven, and a few fishes."

That doesn't sound like much food for four thousand people, does it? Jesus commanded the people to sit down on the ground. Then He took the seven loaves and fishes and gave thanks and broke the loaves and the fishes and gave to the disciples and the disciples to the multitude. Jesus just kept handing out bread and fish till all those people had all they could hold. The disciples gathered seven basketfuls that was left of the food, the people didn't eat. Where did all that food come from? How did Jesus do it? Some things we can't understand, but one thing we should know and believe is that Jesus did feed all that multitude from seven loaves and a few little fishes.

Compared to heaven, we are living in a desert land. We are dependent upon Jesus for our very life. Jesus can do anything. He can feed you, clothe you and heal you. If you really and truly believe in Him and choose Him for your Master — Jesus will make you a different person. He will feed you on the words of eternal life, which is the Bible, and you will grow in the grace and knowledge of the truth. Living for Jesus is the greatest! Brother Rudy Cover

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN
Part 16

THE FIFTH DISPENSATION OF MAN ON THE EARTH CONTINUED — THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES

King Nebuchadnezzar dreamed a dream, or had a vision, concerning his worldwide dominion, but he could not understand the dream. God's servant Daniel interpreted the dream for him. In this dream it was revealed to him, when interpreted by Daniel, the beginning as well as the end of Gentile supremacy.

Bible readers are acquainted with the story of the great image which he saw, which represented four great world-empires, beginning with Nebuchadnezzar and ending with the coming of Christ. Dan. 2:31-45; 4:1-37. Because of the importance of what this dream meant to the world and to God's chosen, we deem it important, to make note of it in these writings.

THE DREAM

Dan. 2:31-35, "Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible. This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and break them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth."

Before we give the interpretation by Daniel, let us note: It was in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, that he had this dream, which troubled him greatly, but when he awoke, it was gone from him. So, he called his magicians and astrologers and demanded that they reproduce his dream. They were unable to reproduce it, or interpret it. This they could not do, so the king ordered their destruction, but the penalty was stayed, because of Daniel's petition for them. Both Daniel and his companions prayed. In the night vision to Daniel, the dream and its meaning were made known to him.

This image symbolizes Gentile world empires, in their unity and historical succession, from the days of Babylon down through the centuries, to the destruction of Spiritual Babylon, by Christ. Hence we believe, Gentile dominion is represented in Scripture by a huge "Metallic Man." This spans four empires, beginning in the fifth dispensation of man and ending at the close of the sixth dispensation.

THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM OR IMAGE

Dan. 2:36-38, "This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold."

It is very interesting to read Daniel 4 and observe the sovereignty of God over the affairs of men and to see how Nebuchadnezzar was established in his kingdom, or empire. It is fully described in verses 36-37. "At the same time my reason returned unto me (he had lived with the beasts of the earth, eating grass like an ox); and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me. Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all those works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase."

Going on with the interpretation. Dan. 2:39-43, "And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay."

We have learned that the head of this image, which was of gold, represents Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon. He was a king of kings, with a kingdom set up by the God of Heaven. He represents the first kingdom, or empire, of the Gentile dominion.

To Be Continued
Brother William Root

Cultivate forbearance till your heart yields a fine crop of it. Pray for a short memory as to all unkindness. — Spurgeon.

NEWS ITEM

RIDGE, WEST VIRGINIA

The Ridge Congregation looks forward to a one week revival beginning June 29, 1980. The Lord willing, Bro. Virgil Leatherman of Littlestown, Pennsylvania will be our evangelist. Our Lovefeast will be July 5. All are welcome to come and enjoy these meetings.

Sister Irene Harris, Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JULY

July 6 — Pharisees and Lawyers Reproved - Luke 11:14-54.

July 13 — Fear God; Beware of Covetousness - Luke 12:1-21.

July 20 — What Is Your Treasure? - Luke 12:22-40.

July 27 — Responsibility; Signs of the Times - Luke 12:41-59.

QUESTIONS:

(1) Why will the queen of Sheba rise up in judgment against those whom Jesus came to save? - Luke 11:31.

(2) Why did Jesus criticize the Pharisees and lawyers? - Luke 11:39-52.

(3) The law said, "Thou shalt not covet" but Paul says to covet earnestly the best gifts. What kind of things is Jesus talking about when He says, "Beware of covetousness"? - Luke 12:15.

(4) What kind of treasure must we have to get into Heaven? - Luke 12:33.

(5) What kind of a reward will the servant of the Lord get who accepts the responsibility of being a Christian? - Luke 12:43.

What about an irresponsible servant? - Luke 12:46.

(6) What kind of baptism is Jesus speaking of in Luke 12:50? - I Peter 4:1.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JULY 1980

DEATH

Memory Verse: Acts 17:31
Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.
Tues. 1 — Acts 10:1-24
Wed. 2 — Acts 10:25-48
Thur. 3 — Acts 13:1-25
Fri. 4 — Acts 13:26-52
Sat. 5 — Acts 17:1-15

Memory Verse: Acts 26:23
That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the gentiles.
Sun. 6 — Acts 17:16-34
Mon. 7 — Acts 23:1-15
Tues. 8 — Acts 24:1-21
Wed. 9 — Acts 25:1-27
Thurs. 10 - Acts 26:1-23
Fri. 11 — Rom. 1:1-16
Sat. 12 — Rom. 1:17-32

Memory Verse: Rom. 5:15
But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.
Sun. 13 — Rom. 4:1-25
Mon. 14 — Rom. 5:1-21
Tues. 15 — Rom. 6:1-23
Wed. 16 — Rom. 7:1-25
Thur. 17 — Rom. 8:1-17
Fri. 18 — Rom. 8:18-39
Sat. 19 — Rom. 10:1-21

Memory Verse: Rom. 6:4
Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
Sun. 20 — Rom.11:1-18
Mon. 21 — Rom. 11:19-36
Tues. 22 — Rom. 14:1-23
Wed. 23 — 1 Cor. 15:1-28
Thur. 24 — 1 Cor. 15:29-58
Fri. 25 — 2 Cor. 1:1-24
Sat. 26 — 2 Cor. 5:1-21

Memory Verse: Rom. 8:11
But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.
Sun. 27 — Gal. 2:1-21
Mon. 28 — Eph. 1:1-23
Tues. 29 — Eph. 2:1-22
Wed. 30 — Eph. 5:1-21
Thur. 31 — Phil. 3:1-21

Memory Verses: 1 Cor. 15:20-22
But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
2 Cor. 5:14 & 15
For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII JULY 1, 1980 No. 13

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

COUNTING ON ME

I'm humble, unlearned; I'm one of the least,
But I know God is counting on me
To do my share of the work He has given me to do,
This special task He has given to me.

Our Savior has work for you too, my friend,
Something no one else can do.
Some task for you and for you alone,
Remember, our Lord is counting on you.

Humbly I bow at my precious Lord's feet,
I am unfit, weary, weak, and afraid.
Oh, what can I do, one so helpless as I,
Then I hear my blessed Lord say.

Go out by the highways, the byways, the lanes,
Gather sheaves for the Master's need.
Don't say there is nothing I can do,
Trust, believe, and His word carefully read.

Soon we find every day in some special way,
Brings some special work, some task we may do.
Perhaps a kind word to say, to a sin sick soul,
Remember God is counting on you.

—Mary Langham
Selected by Sister Blanche Eberly

BETTER THINGS

We live in a time of scientific advancement. We expect our labors to be lessened and our products to be safer, stronger and more efficient. Computers and lasers accomplish quickly the tasks that were hard and time-consuming a few years ago. There are many labor-saving devices today which were unknown even a few decades ago. If time continues, there will be even greater advances, so the wonderful things of today will be obsolete in a few years. While progress may not be an unmixed blessing, yet we use the inventions and advances of the past few years to lessen our labors.

While our physical lives may be improved by these new methods and materials, we must also be aware that there are eternal Spiritual values which cannot be improved upon. The values of the Word of God cannot be improved upon no matter how advanced the physical life may become. Only through the message of the Bible can a soul be warned, saved and blessed.

We depend on these better things for the ease of our physical life. When Jesus came to Earth, He represented the better things that God had in store for its inhabitants. The Book of Hebrews shows the various ways in which Jesus was better. The superiority of Jesus is established, for men are prone to depend upon these other things for their soul's salvation. When we realize the superiority of Jesus, we know these other things will fail us and He is our only hope. He truly is better things to us than all other things.

God's messengers, the angels, have been given power and a task to do. We can never fully realize the good the angels do for us. Their ministrations are often hidden from us, but become evident later. Some might try to worship these Heavenly beings. But it must be

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remembered that they are subject to God. They are not greater than Jesus, though He appeared on Earth in the form of man. Never did God address an angel as His son, nor did He speak of Himself as their Father. The angels worshiped Jesus, which shows who is the greater. Jesus is better than the angels.

Man has done many wonderful things. God has blessed man far above the rest of His Creation. Man has not always appreciated the gifts God has given him. In fact, man has come to view himself as being self-sufficient and as the most important thing in the world. Man has forgotten God and His part in man's promotion. As great as God's promotion of man is, Jesus is still greater. Jesus is greater than the angels, but man was created a little lower than the angels. Jesus, in the form of man, lived, suffered and died that He might be able to succour all mankind. He was not only man but God. He was qualified to serve as the propitiation for man's sins. Jesus is better than man.

Moses was a great man. He was a great prophet and leader appointed and empowered by God. While we may realize the poor condition of mankind in general, we also may overestimate the goodness and ability of certain individuals. Moses was a man who had proven faithful at a great crossroads in history. But Moses was human. He sinned. Because of his disobedience he failed to enter the Promised Land. Jesus was perfect, without spot or blemish. Although Moses offered himself in exchange for his people, it was only Jesus' sacrifice of Himself that was acceptable. Jesus is better than Moses.

Moses was not only a great man but he was representative of the Law he had received from God. The Old Law could only foreshadow the true Redeemer, Jesus Christ. It was symbolic; He was reality. Jesus was better than the law represented by Moses. His sacrifice was made once for all. The sacrifices of the Law were repeated yearly. Jesus was the believer's direct connection with God, the priests of the Law were themselves man so had to make an atonement for themselves as well as for their people. The Law served as a means to awaken the people toward God, but Jesus was the source of life. Jesus is better than the Law.

The Jews could look forward to a rest each Sabbath. But that rest was physical. The Christian can look forward not only to a day of rest each week, but a continuing rest or peace in the midst of temporal crises and an eternal rest at the clost of this life. This better rest is the result of the work of Jesus Christ. Because He lived and died and lives again, we can put our dependence upon something better than the feeble objects of this world's dependence. Jesus is better than all the world can offer.

We desire the better things of this world for our bodies' comfort. Do we likewise desire the better things for our souls? Do you want Jesus - the better things?

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE LEAVEN OF THE PHARISEES

In Israel, bread was often called "leaven." Jesus had fed four thousand people from seven loaves and two small fishes. Many from all parts of the country came to see Jesus and to hear Him speak. He had healed so many that everywhere they were talking about Jesus. Many thought Jesus was the Messiah whom the prophets had prophesied would come to save the nation of Israel. He would be their King and all other nations would be subject to His rule.

The Pharisees were a sect of Jews who became the religious leaders of the people. Jesus criticized the Pharisees because they did not have compassion and love for others. They lived very strict religious lives, making it hard for themselves and bitter for others. They taught the law of Moses to the people but changed many things to suit themselves. Jesus said that by their traditions they had made the law of none effect. They were like some of our lawyers today. They were not always honest and truthful but twisted the law to suit themselves. The Pharisees did not like Jesus. He was becoming too popular to suit them. They would tempt Jesus with hard questions and try to get Him to say or do something that they might accuse Him or arrest Him. Jesus always told the truth and sometimes the truth hurts -- especially when He told about some of the things they had done wrong. One time Jesus said, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness." He also called them serpents, a generation of vipers. Jesus didn't mince words so they planned to kill Him. The Sadducees were another sect of the Jews. They didn't believe that people who died would live again.

Jesus said to His disciples, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." The disciples thought that He said this because they had forgotten to bring bread along. Jesus said, "O ye of little faith, why do ye reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread?" Jesus could give them bread to eat as He did the four thousand, but He wasn't talking about that kind of bread. Jesus was teaching them something more important. He was warning the disciples about the doctrine or teaching of the Pharisees. He called it "leaven" or "bread" but it was a kind of bread they should leave alone. It was something that would lead them in the wrong way and poison their minds.

Jesus wants us to know the truth. The truth is the Word of God. He wants us to be loving and kind and willing to help others. Today we have many doctrines and teachings in the world that are not the

truth. They are not from God but are some man's idea. Many people fall for these false teachings. We must study God's Word so that we know the truth and the truth will make us free. Then we will know what the leaven of the Pharisees is and we can refuse the false teachings that others would force upon us.

Brother Rudy Cover

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Prayer is our only means of communication with God. A person who has never prayed to God could not be expected to know of God any more than he could a stranger he had never seen or spoken to. Jesus was very explicit when He told us how to pray. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says we should not pray as the hypocrites, for they love to be SEEN OF MEN, not to pray as the heathen do, for they use vain repetitions and think they shall be heard for their MUCH SPEAKING. Jesus says when we pray we should enter our closet and when we have shut the door, pray to the Father which seeth in secret and He shall reward thee openly. Concerning the Lord's Prayer, in Matthew He says, "After this manner therefore pray ye" and Luke records, "When ye pray say, Our Father which art in heaven," and so forth.

In individual prayer, it is evident that we must pray to God alone in a simple, direct manner. We should know what we desire of God, and have faith that God will answer. ". . . Ask and it shall be given you; seek, and he shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you." It is unreasonable to assume that God, the Father, who so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son to die on the cross for the sins of men, would not care enough for His children to give them what is needful.

"For your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him." We might ask, "Then why ask for anything?" Because the Father wants us to become acquainted with Him. He wants a close relationship with His children. He wants us to recognize the power for good that only God has; that we are helpless without Him; that we couldn't even exist without His life-giving power. "If ye shall ask anything in my name I will do it." With all these promises and without a careful analysis, we might think, "I'll ask the Lord to make me rich." And then when the Lord wouldn't grant such a request, say to ourselves, "Just as I thought, what's the use to pray anyway?" No! This is not good reasoning. Jesus says to ask in His name and He doesn't mean just to close our prayers with the formality, "In Jesus' name." When we think of a person's name, we think of that particular person. The likes and dislikes of that person and all the traits which make up his character. When we petition the Father in

Jesus' name, we should recognize what Christ would approve of. If we pray for selfish desires and they are answered, it would only harm our Christian life. Anything that would make us feel superior to someone else would only be a hindrance to us. We should only ask for those things which are needful. Let us not be discouraged and give up praying, because if we do, we lose the contact; we sever the very lifeline which connects us to the greatest power of the universe. We can do nothing of ourselves. Do we realize what this means? Can it be true that we are powerless to do anything of ourselves? Yes, it is only too true, for "In him we live, and move, and have our being." Jesus says, "Without me ye can do nothing." If we refuse the greatest help which is so freely offered, we only ask for tragedy.

We must not only petition the Lord in pryer once, but we should continue to do so. When we ask a worthy cause of the Lord, we should never doubt that in due time the Lord will give us our desire. The fault of unanswered prayer is always with us. James says, "Ye ask and receive not because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." In the parable of the unjust judge: "That men ought always to pray and not faint." Unanswered prayer can only mean that we need to get rid of self and selfish desires. John says, "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him."

The one sure way to be unselfish in prayer is to pray for someone else. What a privilege this is and what a benefit could be gained if we could only pray for one another. There is no limit to the good that could be done through unselfish prayer! Am I afraid that the Lord will bless my brother above me? If not, why not pray for him? It would not hurt me if my brother is blessed. If I can pray for the good of my brother I cannot hold him in enmity. It would not take long till he would notice a different attitude from me. "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16. Jesus says, ". . . pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you. . ." What a different world we would have if the power of prayer were fully used!

Jesus wants us to have the very best in this life and He knows His Father's way is best. He came to do the Father's will and made Himself of no reputation. It is possible to ask the Lord for things that wouldn't be good for us and might even cause us to lose an eternal life with Him. It is a wonderful blessing that the Lord will only do for His children what would be for their good, even though at times it means chastisement. "If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as sons; for what son is he whom the Father chasteneth not?"

As Jesus has promised much to the prayer of the individual, he also promises much to the united prayer of a group or company together. "Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in MY NAME, there am I in the midst of them." We notice again that it is in Jesus' name." This is very important as it puts qualifications to our prayers. We must have the mind of Christ before we can successfully ask for anything and expect to receive it. It is important in united prayer that we are agreed on what to pray for. I do not think we need to have long prayers and many words, but we should know what it is that we ask and have faith to believe the Lord will perform it. United prayer is one thing the Church fails to make full use of. The promise is so bold that we fail to grasp the importance of its meaning. God is willing to do anything that would be to the betterment of us if we only agree together and ask Him for it. It is just that simple. Jesus wants us to trust implicitly in Him and He has the greatest power there is to help us. Through Jesus' name all things are possible to him that believeth. Do you believe? Why not? If we gather together in the name of Jesus He has promised to be in our midst. Think of it! Christ is the Head and the Church is the body. It is through agreed prayer in the name of Jesus that the Spirit can perform most effectively in answer to our prayers.

Prayer should not be a formality. The power of prayer is a reality.

Brother Rudy Cover

THE "WANT TO"

"I want to do it myself" is a phrase familiar to parents at various stages of a child's growth. This desire to be independent often surfaces at some very inconvenient times, like when one must hurry to keep an appointment. Mother can do it more quickly, but Junior wants to do it himself, whether he has the ability or not. At such times, the child's will must be brought into submission to the parent's will in order to get things done properly. "I want to do it myself" doesn't always please a parent, and this sort of spirit cannot please God.

Our will must be brought into submission to God's will before we can please Him. We can't be at our best as long as we are fighting God, but when we submit to Him and are truly willing, then He can bless and use us. A man said he told God he'd go anywhere and sever Him anywhere — except Alaska. God hadn't asked him to go there. He just didn't like the place and was afraid God would make him go there, so he didn't make an unconditional surrender. He was without peace until the moment came when he said, "Lord, I'll even go to Alaska for You."

This man never went to Alaska. What the Lord wanted was this man's complete and unconditional surrender of his will. The Lord then used him right where he was. This man was like a child, wanting to do his own thing. Quite often we are just like him. We want to do the work God wants done, but we want to do it our own way, and only when we are ready, not when God is ready. "I want to do it myself" limits our willingness, which in turn limits God. James 4:7a says, "Submit yourselves therefore to God", and when we do, God's work gets done.

"And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." Matt. 26:39. Jesus prayed This way three times because of the great distress in His heart. Even so, this cup did not pass from Jesus and He did drink it, because it was the Father's will. Jesus said, "I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me." John 5:30. He desired to please His Father, so Jesus gave all that He had to give, including His life.

Jesus had a very bitter cup to drink - physical suffering for crimes He hadn't committed, mental anguish from the countless verbal abuses, and most of all, the anguish of heart and soul because He had to become sin for us. We are not asked to die for others, or bear their sins, but sometimes we, too, must drink a bitter cup. We suffer because of things others do and we wish the Lord would take our cup away. Yet our submission to God's will is necessary in the painful matters as well as in the more pleasnt ones.

What is gained by our submission? What purpose does it serve? First of all, Jesus gave His life for us, so it is reasonable that we give our lives to Him. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Rom. 12:1. Second, God's wisdom far exceeds ours, so we have every reason to be sure that He knows what's best in our lives. We lose nothing by submitting to Him.

Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15. He also said, "For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in Heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother." Matt. 12:50. Keeping the commandments, submitting to the Father's will indicates that we are in the family of God. Submitting to God makes us eligible for all the blessings and benefits reserved for His children, just as a submissive child is eligible for what his natural parents can provide. A rebellious child will not have the same privileges and benefits as a submissive one. It is the same in our relationship with God.

When we submit to God and completely place our lives in His hands, He doesn't give us order to carry out. He takes care of us; the responsibility for our welfare is His. We don't need to fuss and fret and worry about how we're going to take care of ourselves, for God will do that. "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him." Prov. 16:7. When we please God, there is no area of our lives left untouched by His care.

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" Rom. 9:16. The one we serve and obey is the one we belong to. Serving sin brings death, but to obey the Lord is to have peace and life. Give your "want to" to the Lord - this means giving Him your whole heart and life - and His blessing will be yours. "Blessed are they that do His commandments."

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

A FATHER'S GOOD ADVICE

A young girl came home in anger one day and told her parents that a young man had spoken to her in a disrespectful way. Her mother was as much angered as the girl when she heard the story, and both thought that the father should take up the matter.

But the father said, "Daughter, you are not an immoral girl: but let me tell you a few things that may help you to look differently at this matter. You are young and attractive, and your dress is such that it displays all your charms of face and figure. Your arms are bare almost to the shoulders, your waist is cut so low that a good portion of your shoulders and chest are exposed to view; your skirt is scant and narrow, and the slit in the front, with your bright, short petticoat and your thin silk hose display your limbs almost to the knees; your dress is so cut that every line of your figure is seen in bold relief. You went out on the street with your companions and saw this young man and knew that he was a stranger; but you laughed and tossed your head as you passed him, and perhaps made some light remark that he overheard.

"He is a stranger here and did not know that you were a moral girl, for he would not think so by your appearance. I'm sorry that this has occurred, but, daughter, you are as much to blame as he."

Truly this father gave his daughter the much-needed advice. He was a bit late, though. He should have set up the Gospel standard in the home so his daughter would have been dressed properly all through her childhood and teens under the parents' care and

supervision. Would to God we had more such fathers. Oh, that fathers and mothers and ministers would lift up the Bible standard of how Christians and their children should dress. Every child of God should adorn his body in neat, plain, modest attire. It is impossible to please God and follow the abominable, ungodly fashions of the world. Jesus said of His people, "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." (John 17:16). James declares, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." John says, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." (I John 2:15-16).

Paul in I Tim. 2:9-10 plainly teaches women how to adorn themselves. "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works." Peter said, "For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands." (I Pet. 3:5).

God has not changed. His Word has not changed. Therefore the holy women of today adorn themselves in the same manner. Those who dress according to the Bible standard are accused by those who have a form of godliness of being too radical, fanatical and going too far. The compromising, worldly professors tell us if the inside is right, it does not matter about the outside. But Jesus said, "Cleanse that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside may be clean also."

Superfluous or immodest adornment denotes inward corruption — carnality, pride! Solomon the wise man said, "Everyone that is proud in heart is abomination to the Lord." In Rev. 21:8 we read that the "ABOMINABLE shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone."

Oh, that ministers would cry aloud against this soul-killing, health and moral wrecking fashion current which is at high tide; it is overflowing its banks; it is everywhere outside and inside the church. No marvel that the unsaved follow the fashions. They are of the world. But Christians follow Jesus, "for they know his voice." They do not follow the world.

Selected by Brother Paul R. Myers

CHURCH BABIES

R. W. Densberger

It is astonishing how many people there are in the churches who have to be nursed. Instead of being spiritually strong men and women, they are mere babes and have to be cared for.

Through their infirmity, the Church, instead of being a work shop becomes a nursery — a hospital. Paul said, "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." (I Cor. 13:11) But many who profess to be mature believers are still playing with spiritual rag-dolls.

Spiritual babes, instead of doing work, make work for others. The difference between a child and a man is that a man works and a child makes work for others. Most churches of today are full of babies. They do not help; they hinder. Many have not learned to walk, but they have learned to talk. Some of these church babies are a whining set, and the church finds itself under constraint for running a nursery for many of them. The preacher must spend much of his time cradle-rocking to keep them from whining.

Some of these babies are thirty, and forty and fifty years old. Did you ever see a grey-headed baby? I have. Many of them. They never get out of spiritual babyhood. They have never cut their first teeth. Permanently dwarfed in spiritual infancy! What a pity! Instead of eating meat, they must in mid-life and beyond, be nursed from a bottle.

The reason why so many of them are not strong men and women in Christ Jesus is because they do not eat the proper food. We are to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We cannot grow in grace by feasting on sinful pleasures. We must have God's Word. Many are drinking milk who ought to be eating meat.

It is no disgrace to be a baby. But we must not remain babies. Religion or Christianity is a growing in holiness; a development into the image of Christ Jesus.

Selected from International Tract Bulletin
by Brother Ray Stuber

There is no greater fool than he that says, "There is no God," unless it be the one who says he does not know whether there is one or not. — Bismarck.

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from June 15, 1980 Issue

In our further study of the interpretation of this image, let us harmonize it with Daniel's vision in Daniel 7. We believe they are parallel one with the other. "In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters." Dan. 7:1.

Daniel proceeds to interpret what he saw in his dream. The next seven verses record the four kingdoms, which Nebuchadnezzar saw. In his dream he gives the likeness of those kings or kingdoms. Dan. 7:2, "Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea." We believe the sea of humanity, many peoples, are meant here, although some have thought it perhaps means the Mediterranean Sea. It matters not. "And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another." That is each one different from the other, one following the other, as we understand. It may well be, possibly is true, that these four beasts rose up from region of the "Great Sea," as pictured by the image.

NOTE: The nature of these beasts. Verse four, "The first was like a lion, and had eagles wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it." Surely this refers to king Nebuchadnezzar, as illustrated in Dan. 4, "A man's heart was given to it." Note the pecularity of this beast. Daniel saw him as an "eagle with wings." The eagle is considered the king of birds. This corresponded to the royalty of the "head of gold," of the image, and typified the eagle-like swiftness of the armies of Nebuchadnezzar. "Like a lion," the lion symbolizes power; he is king of beasts.

Dear Reader, let us get the full harmony and similarity of this vision of Daniel in chapter 7 to Nebuchadnezzar's dream, concerning himself, as recorded in chapter 4.

For our consideration let us notice some of the verses of the fourth chapter. The first beast of Daniel 7 which was like a lion, which had eagle's wings and was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart given to it, was Nebuchadnezzar, as revealed in his own dream. He saw in his dream and heard. Dan. 4:16, "let his heart be changed from man's and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times (seven years) pass over him." He saw himself as "the tree that thou sawest, which grew, and was strong, and bear much fruit..." It is

thou, O king, that art grown and become strong: for thy greatness is grown, and reacheth unto heaven, and thy dominion to the end of the earth." Dan. 4:20-31.

Daniel saw in his first beast in chapter 7, the same, "and it was lifted up from the earth." The "plucking of his wings," may refer to the loss of his reason, at the beginning of the "seven times" or years, that would pass over him. Again, the lifting up, and causing to stand upon his feet as a man, may refer to his restoration to his reason. Dan. 4:34-36. The power of Nebuchadnezzar was absolute, Dan. 5:17-21.

Before we discuss the second beast of Daniel's vision, chapter 7, let us note verse 17, "These great beasts, which are four are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth." In verse 24 of chapter 7, the Word implies that kings and kingdoms are closely related. "And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall arise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings." This shows then that "beasts" represent kings and kingdoms. So, these four beasts of Daniel's vision represent four coming kingdoms, after the days of Daniel.

Long before the days of Daniel the prophet, the Lord God, in pronouncing blessing and cursing upon Israel, warned them of their persecution in days to come, in Babylon, by this "lion beast," the power of Nimrod and out of which power proceeded the power of the Roman Empire. This was to befall Israel, because of their disobedience. In Deut. 28:49-51, we have this record, "The Lord shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth; as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand; A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor shew favour to the young: And he shall eat the fruit of thy cattle, and the fruit of thy land, until thou be destroyed: which also shall not leave thee either corn, wine, or oil or the increase of thy kine, or flocks of thy sheep, until he have destroyed thee."

Coming back to the image of Nebuchadnezzar. Dan. 2:39, "And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth." This second kingdom was the Kingdom or Empire of Medo-Persia.

This Empire, or kingdom, is the same, we understand, as the second "beast" which Daniel saw in his vision of the seventh chapter. "The Bear Kingdom." Dan. 7:5, "And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh."

Let us note how God stirred up the Medes and Persians. We note that the bear is the strongest beast after the lion, and is distinguished for its voracity. He has none of the agility and majesty of the lion; but is awkward in his movements. He effects his purpose with comparative slowness and by brute force and sheer strength he must conquer. These were the characteristics of the Medo-Persian Empire. It was ponderous in its movement. It did not win its victories by bravery or skill, but overwhelmed its enemies by hurling vast masses of troops upon them.

For all this, it seems to have been God's purpose that Old Babylon was to fall. Jer. 50:21-25. "Go up against the land of Merathaim, even against it, and against the inhabitants of Pekod: waste and utterly destroy after them, saith the Lord, and do according to all that I have commanded thee. A sound of battle is in the land, and of great destruction. How is the hammer of the whole earth cut asunder and broken? How is Babylon become a desolation among the nations! I have laid a snare for thee, and thou art also taken, O Babylon, and thou wast not aware: thou art found, and also caught, because thou hast striven against the Lord. The Lord hath opened his armoury, and hath brought forth the weapons of his indignation: for this is the work of the Lord God of hosts in the land of the Chaldeans."

At this point, Please read and study carefully this fiftieth chapter of Jeremiah, from verses 25-38, for a full account of the fall of this "Lion Kingdom" Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon. Then note God's eternal word, concerning her, verses 39-40. "Therefore the wild beasts of the desert with the wild beasts of the islands shall dwell there, and the owls shall dwell therein: and it shall be no more inhabited for ever; neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation." As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and the neighbour cities thereof, saith the Lord; so shall no man abide there, neither shall any son of man dwell therein."

In these verses we have the doom and the fall of Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon, the Lion Beast. Also Ancient Babylon is a type, or symbol of spiritual "mystery" Babylon, at the end time, of the book of the Revelation, as we understand.

Brother William Root

"For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be despised are not to be compared to it." Prov. 8:11. There are two voices, the voice of wisdom and the voice of folly. Which one are you listening to? "Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not. For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the Lord." Prov. 8:33 and 35.

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

CHRISTIAN LIVING

A true Christian living in the world is like a ship sailing on the ocean. It is not the ship being in the water that will sink it but the water getting into the ship. So in like manner, the Christian is not ruined by living in the world, which he must needs do while he remains in the body, but by the world living in him. The world in the heart has ruined millions of immortal souls.

How careful is the mariner to guard against leakage lest the water entering into the vessel by imperceptible degrees, cause the vessel to sink; and ought not the Christian to watch and pray, lest Satan and the world should find some unguarded inlet to his heart?

Selected by Sister Ruth Drake

NEWS ITEMS

THANK YOU

We wish to thank everyone for the prayers, cards and gifts given since the premature birth of our daughter. She is now home and doing fine. May God bless each one.

Brother and Sister Milton Cook

ANYBODY COULD BUT NOBODY DID!

Fred Somebody, Thomas Everybody, Pete Anybody and Joe Nobody were neighbors, but they were not like you and me. They were odd people and most difficult to understand. The way they lived was a shame. All four belonged to the same church, but you couldn't have enjoyed worshiping with them.

EVERYBODY went fishing on Sunday or stayed home to visit with friends. ANYBODY wanted to worship but was afraid SOMEBODY wouldn't speak to him, so NOBODY went to Church. Really NOBODY was the only decent one of the four. NOBODY did the visitation. NOBODY worked on the Church building. Once they needed a Sunday School teacher. EVERYBODY thought ANYBODY would do it. SOMEBODY thought EVERYBODY would do it. Guess who did it finally? That's right, NOBODY! It happened that a fifth neighbor (an unbeliever) came to live among them. EVERYBODY thought that SOMEBODY should try to win him. ANYBODY could have at least made an effort. But guess who finally won him to Christ? That's right . . . NOBODY.

Selected by Brother Clarence Gehr

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

NOW I RESOLVE WITH ALL MY HEART

Now I resolve with all my heart,
  With all my pow'rs to serve the Lord:
Nor from his precepts e'er depart,
  Whose service is a rich reward.

Oh, be his service all my joy!
  Around let my example shine,
Till others love the blest employ,
  And join in labors so divine.

Be this the purpose of my soul,
  My solemn, my determin'd choice,
To yield to his supreme control,
  And in his great commands rejoice.

Oh, may I never faint nor tire,
  Nor wand'ring, leave his sacred ways;
Great God, accept my soul's desire,
  And give me strength to live thy praise.

— Anne Steele

COMMITMENT

A good businessman must be committed to the product or service he is selling. He must believe that his product is worth the price he asks. In fact he should be committed enough to use his own product. He must be willing to give good service to his customers even when it is inconvenient for him. His commitment will mean more than perhaps even the quality of the product. Businessmen are willing to do many things to sell their products. If men of the world can be so totally dedicated in these temporal, fleeting things, can we, as Christians, be any less committed to the cause of Jesus Christ?

Are we as willing as the businessman to be helpful, polite and knowledgeable. We are dealing with eternal souls who are going to spend an eternity either in the fires of Hell or the glories of Heaven. Their value far exceeds the value of all products the businessman sells.

Jesus left us an example of total commitment. He gave Himself for a world that was lost and dying in sin. He came to do His Father's Will and His commitment was total. He was willing to go to Calvary and to drink of the cup of suffering. But this was not all. His commitment brought Him from the glories of Heaven down to Earth. He came not as a King but as a babe. He was committed to helping mankind to the extent that He took man's form. He knew man's worries, pains, weariness and poverty. His commitment made Him heal the sick. He was willing to give up what was rightfully His, that He might help us.

What a pattern of commitment for us to follow! Can we give up

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our time, talent and will to help others? We can, but will we? It is not only the example of His commitment that enables us to be committed but the fact of His commitment. Without His commitment, we could never do the least thing that would be acceptable to God. Jesus went through the necessary agony of the cross and the glory of the resurrection, that we might have the ability to serve God acceptably. Our commitment must always rest upon His, not upon our good works born out of human aspirations and plans.

As the businessman must believe in his product, so we must know that our faith and practices are worthy of our commitment. The New Testament's teachings must be so real and so necessary to us that we feel they are needed by all. We live in a world governed by compromise and tolerance of all beliefs. While we can never force another to accept the Bible's way, neither can we mold that way to fit the beliefs of all men. We must be committed to the Truth. It is the truth that will free men spiritually. We must be committed to the preservation of that way, that it not be cheapened or compromised. Our commitment would be less than total if it were a commitment to a belief less than the whole truth.

There are many committed people in this world. They are committed to various political, economic and religious causes. Their lives are often as unjust as the evils they are supposedly warring against. Our commitment must be a commitment to righteousness. Although there are a multitude of evils ever lurking to overcome us, we must be so dedicated to righteousness that good would overcome evil. Commitment must be continuous even in the face of the discouragements of opposition and hatred. Discouragement proves the mettle of the commitment.

Commitment requires a vision. When all is dark and all are opposed, a commitment is needed to continue on. There must be something better beckoning ahead, like a distant light in a dark tunnel. This world is a tunnel of darkness, but when there is a glimmer of light ahead, even if it is seen only by faith, the journey becomes bearable and has purpose. The victory at the end of commitment will be bright when compared to the past darkness. It is a magnificent victory when even one soul is rescued from that darkness, that will ever deepen and never lighten. Commitment, daily and continual, is needed to secure victory.

If men can be committed to every sort of financial and social goal in this world, the Christian should have an even greater commitment to Eternal, Spiritual goals. There is no cause worthy of any greater commitment than ours.

We each must be committed for our own soul's good and the good of others. Are you a committed Christian?

CONFERENCE MUSINGS

What wonderful memories the Conference of 1980 has left behind. I heard the remark many times, "This is the best Conference we have ever had." The Christian fellowship was wonderful. I am wondering if the nearing of Christ's coming is not drawing His followers closer together. The cool weather and the rain caused some discomfort but maybe God permitted it in order to help us realize His greatness. Satan also likes to tempt God's people and I am sure he was not too far from the Conference grounds at any time. In fact, I think some of his imps hover around each of us every hour of the day. Let us give the Holy Spirit, who is greater than any of Satan's helpers, the full control of our hearts and lives.

I am thankful God made it possible for me to attend part of the services. I was not able to take many notes but I am hoping your Editor will surprise you with at least a few full sermons and I am sure he will have some notes on the rest.

I was able to jot down just a few thoughts from the various speakers and I am going to give you a few highlight thoughts that will give you an inspiration for a closer every day walk with God.

Man failed, God never fails. A sheep lost can not find its way back to the fold. We are like sheep we cannot save ourselves. Christ is our shepherd. We have been born sinners. God hates sin but He loves us. God asked Adam, "Where art thou?" Adam replied, "I was afraid and hid myself." Our conscience tells us right from wrong if we do not allow it to become seared. Peter's conscience condemned him when he denied Christ. Judas' conscience caused him to hand himself. Let the Holy Spirit rule your conscience and you will not sin, but pray that Satan does not sear it against the rule of the Holy Spirit.

Our physical and mental activities make up our personality. A healthy body has all organs working together in harmony. The church is the body of Christ and each member must fill his God-appointed place. We can't forsee how much a totally consecrated man, woman, boy or girl can accomplish for God. A plane can sit down safely in heavy fog by listening to the orders from the tower. Our souls will land safe with God if we follow His orders.

A little boy made a boat and went to the river to sail it. The water swept it away from him and he was unable to get it. A few days later he saw it in the window of a second hand store for sale. He saved his money and bought it back. He said he paid for it twice. He made it and then bought it back. Christ did the same for us. We were created by Him according to John 1:3 and yet He had to die and give His life for our sins.

Cain asked God if he was his brother's keeper and we know by the punishment God gave him that he should not have killed his brother.

One mother who had a large family always chose to eat the backs and necks of chicken when they had it, so the children could have the better pieces. Is that our attitude in the church or do we think of self first. Can our church love the unlovable. Maybe a few more tears and a little more compassion would help people to come into the church. Remember your soul is not for sale and we are so apt to be more interested in ourselves than in others.

Sister Ruth Drake

Editor's Note

For the past several years, Sister Drake has provided notes on the sermons at General Conference. Because of physical infirmities this year, she was unable to do this. But she did make arrangements to have these sermons taped. From her tapes, the Editor will provide notes on these sermons for Bible Monitor readers.

1980 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Saturday P.M.

Moderator: Bro. Fred Pifer

Chorister: Bro. John Meyers

Opening: Bro. Virgil Leatherman. Psalms 1.

The man who worships God and keeps His commands is blessed. He likes to look down upon our service for Him. Our way will prosper if we follow Him while those who don't in the world will suffer. God's prosperity is spiritual prosperity. Do we delight in His Word? The ungodly have nothing to look forward to like the chaff.

First Speaker: Bro. Paul Hartz. Faith of Our Fathers for Dunkards of Today. II Timothy 1.

Verse 5. Timothy shared a faith with forefathers. Faith on two levels. The First, abstract - a belief that is necessary. The Second, the faith of the Gospel - steadfastness in doctrine, the opposite of change. Are we the same or have we changed? The faith of the Gospel is applicable to all that we do. Verse 15 makes it apparent that there were "wishy-washy" Christians in Paul's time and they are still evident today. Verse 9. A solid conversion experience is enemy of modernism, worldliness and departing from the faith. When converted a person is satisfied to walk in His way. Our good works and observing of ordinances not to be saved but because we are saved. The faith of the gospel is a historic faith, handed down generation to generation. Good home training has a part in historic faith of the gospel. An unfeigned faith is one handed down un-

changed and without blushing. We do not need to apologize for our faith but to joy in it. It is sound and solid, forever settled so can not be changed. The Bible and two hundred years of minutes of Annual Meeting guide us in application of the faith of the gospel in our practices. Verse 13. The faith may be lost, so hold fast. We must never bend or compromise. When the faith has slipped away it can never be recovered. Verse 8. Some are ashamed of the faith. When the life doesn't match appearance then should be ashamed of appearance. The faith must go deeper than the appearance. Are you glad to be a Dunkard, today? Should not be embarrassed by the Gospel. What do we have to be ashamed of? What will we do when it is illegal to be a Christian, to hold meetings or to have a Bible? How deep is our faith? How strongly do we feel for the faith? Do we have the grace to die for the faith? We can't die for it, if we can't live for it. If more earnest in contention for the faith we would be stronger.

Second Speaker: Bro. Jack Snyder. A Mountaintop Experience. Matt. 17:1-13.

The Transfiguration was a mountaintop experience. It was a wonderful time when Jesus was revealed as being more than man. The greatest of the Old Testament saints added their assent to His message. We seek mountaintop experiences at General Conference and other spiritual activities. To reach the mountaintop we must go through the valley of decision. The first decision we must make is to take Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour. There are many other decisions that we must make as Christians.

The Transfiguration was not the first mountaintop experience in the Bible. The Apostles had been with Him during the Sermon on the Mount. Noah had a mountaintop experience on Mt. Ararat. The Devil tempted Christ on an exceeding high mountain so we have to be careful about our mountaintop experiences.

We must depend on the Lord to reach the mountaintop. We must take the upward way. The Apostles almost lost their experience by wanting to build tabernacles for Moses and Elijah. God ended their plan by speaking out on behalf of Christ. Peter had been sincere in his plan but it would only have been for show and God hates that done only for show. Our show will not gain the mountaintop for us. There are rules to follow to have a true experience. We need to reach a higher plain of living. Preparation is necessary to receive spiritual lessons at the House of God. This preparation puts us in tune with God so we can have the true experience. Preparation is a part of the Spiritual armor. Peace is needed with God, within and with others. It is dangerous to climb mountains but that makes the mountaintop more worthwhile. We need determination because Satan will make the journey dangerous. It is necessary to come

apart from the crowd to reach the goal. We must be a separated people. Jesus must be there for us to have that experience. Without Him we could get no higher than this world. Today even those who have committed greater sins than Moses have the opportunity to reach the mountaintop, if it is Mt. Calvary. If we follow these rules we can have a mountaintop experience.

Closing: Bro. David Kegerreis.

Our faith today should be the faith given by Jesus Christ and followed with our whole heart. We live in changing times but there must be no changes in our faith. We must be prepared in heart to have a mountaintop experience. Have you had the experience of Calvary?

Saturday Evening

Moderator: Elder Edward Johnson

Chorister: Bro. Martin Meyers

Opening: Elder Clyde Schultz. Revelation 1

We see many pictures of Christ as various artists suppose Him to have looked, but here is the true picture of Jesus.

Speaker: Elder Ray Reed. The Doctrine of Non-conformity. Rom. 12:1-2; I John 2.

If we are to be partakers of Holiness of God and His Eternal Reward, we must bear the fruit of righteousness. We must follow the direction of the Holy Spirit. We need transformation, for in the natural we are not usable by God. If we are to be on the Lord's side, we must have our minds renewed and be filled with Holy Spirit. Satan brings fear and frustration on every hand, but the Christian can have better things if separated from the world. We must bring forth fruit to His honor and glory.

Jesus wills that each of us would put off carnality and put on spirituality. We live in a day when men please self and fulfill lusts of flesh. We live in a selfish day. We have put our roots down deeply in this old world.

In John 17, Jesus prayed for His Apostles and for us. Jesus was concerned for the Church and for you and me. He wants us to be separated from this world that the lost might see in us the reality of serving the true and living God. He desires that His people be sanctified. Let us look to Jesus. He is coming to receive His Church. The Devil works hard to discourage us. He wants us to be discouraged so we won't put forth the necessary effort and sacrifice. We are to be a holy sacrifice.

Nonconformity covers every area of our lives. One of those areas is our speech. We pick up and use the language and stories of the world. We remember foolish stories and jokes better than the Word of God. Matt. 12:34-37. There will be many words that must be

accounted before God. Our words should be with grace, seasoned with salt that we might know how to answer every man. What do our words reflect? Many words used, even by Christians, are but polite swearing. Our yes should be yes and our no, no.

Nonresistance is another area where nonconformity has a part. This doctrine needs to be emphasized. The Church must lead the young in the right way. Matt. 5:38-44. The transforming law of Jesus Christ changes the old law of revenge and hatred. It is easy to pick at other people, but we are to have love, patience, compassion, returning good for evil.

God has given us the breath of life and it is for Him to take it from us. Man should not take it. We should respect the beings of all men that they might come to the knowledge of the Truth and Eternal life. Although we are to love our enemies, yet it is often on the lips and in the hearts of even professing Christians to get even. We need to go back to love, gentleness, mercy and compassion. Rom. 12:14-21 reemphasizes the words of Jesus. If the draft is reinstated, we must stand for Jesus Christ and let the government know that we can not take up arms to take any man's life. Our citizenship is not here but in another world. We are but strangers and pilgrims here. We are thankful we were born in America and we should honor our rulers, but we must not love this world so much that we would not stand for God. At the best we are here only a little while then we must meet Him. If we are so involved in this world that we would disobey God's Word, there will be no admission to Heaven.

Another area of our nonconformity is our dress. I Pet. 3:3-4. Madam Fashion is a powerful disciple of the devil, working even in the Church. The Church has wisely given us an attire that speaks of our pecularity. Not that we are odd but that we possess the peculiar characteristics of Christianity. We need to heed what the Church has taught us, that we be not conformed to the world. The devil wants us to pretty ourselves up. Pride is very dangerous. Let us not rebel against the standards set forth by the councils of the Church.

Show is a great evil and it becomes even more so in the Church. We should be satisfied with the lowly and inexpensive clothing necessary that we might be covered modestly. I Tim. 2:9-10, similar to Peter's words, is Paul's words showing the union on this subject among the Apostles. That which is simple has less to go wrong with it, but the more complicated, the more trouble. This applies to the Christian's living. We should put worldly things out in the world and bring the things of the Church up to what they should be, that we might be holy.

We have a wonderful calling and opportunity as children of God. We need to be united in helping each other in these dark days. We

have a responsibility to mankind, first, to our Brethren and Sisters and then to others. The closer we walk in the steps of Jesus, the better position we will be in to help our fellow man toward the Saviour. Eph. 3:14-21, Paul's words of encouragement, that we might abide eternally with Him.

Closing: Elder Frank Shaffer.

God has in His Word given us a standard to live by. We are in the world but we are not of the world. Therefore we are to be transformed, not just reformed like world tries to do. Jesus did His Father's will, let us do His Will.

To be continued.

THE CLOSED DOOR

It is so easy to talk, and we think once we've stated our position, that we've done all there is to do. Whatever the subject, whoever the listener, it is easier to talk than to try to get the message across in some other way. When talking about Jesus, it doesn't seem to take much effort. But what can you do when someone says, "No more talk about Jesus; I've had enough"? You are now facing a closed door. So, how do you get it open? Pray!

When the usual means of communication are closed and you know you can no longer talk openly about Jesus, it may look hopeless. There is still an avenue open (it always is) whereby you can reach that person's heart for Christ, and that is through intercessory prayer. So often we think that when there's no good done by talking that we might as well quit trying, but such is not the case. There is more power in prayer than in all the words we can ever utter.

"I exhort, therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, INTERCESSIONS, and giving of thanks, be made for all men. Who (God) will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." I Tim. 2:1, 4. Our will and God's will unite in intercessory prayer. God wants people to be saved and if we want people to be saved, we will pray for them. It takes a deep, heartfelt desire for someone to be saved to keep us praying as we should, to intercede for them as God would have us to.

It takes much less effort to talk to someone about Jesus, than to put our energy into the best way, and sometimes the only way, of reaching someone's heart — prayer. To give ourselves wholly to prayer requires effort and time. It requires more energy than muttering a few half-hearted words which we call a prayer. It requires that we turn the need entirely over to God, so that we are out of the picture. It means that when the person is saved, God gets all the glory. Prayer is admitting to God that what we can say is not sufficient, that He alone can touch a heart.

When we pray as we should, it will not be known publicly. "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." Matt. 6:6. No one will praise us for holding on in secret prayer for someone, but God will bless us. In private prayer, you need not worry that you will offend someone by your requests for only God hears you.

Praying takes time. It takes giving of ourselves when we are getting nothing in return, only a complete dedication and concern will keep us praying when there's no response. At times we are simply too busy, running here and there, too busy with our daily duties to really pray. True praying requires that we have love and compassion, that we will pray as we would want someone to pray for us. Remember the Golden Rule when you pray for others.

Jude 22, 23 says in part "of some have compassion; others save with fear." People respond differently to the message of salvation. The same approach will not work in every circumstance and life, so be careful what you say and how you pray. You should not ask for someone to receive a rude awakening if you wouldn't like one yourself. Rather than ask for a tragedy to happen to someone, ask for Jesus to happen to them. Ask for your loved ones to be saved to serve Jesus, but let God choose the way to awaken them to their need.

Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." John 12:32. He also said, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him." John 6:44a. We are drawn unto Jesus, not driven to Him. It takes more than a tragedy or misfortune to awaken sinners to their soul's need. they must hear and believe the message of salvation. "The Spirit and the bride say, Come." (Rev. 22:17) This is the invitation which sinners must accept. The Father in love draws them unto Jesus, the only one who can meet our soul's need.

"And I sought for a man among them, that should stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found none." Ezek. 22:30. Moses stood in the breach (gap) before God, or He would have destroyed Israel (Psa. 106:23). Jesus interceded for those who participated in the Crucifixion (Luke 23:34). The Holy Spirit intercedes for us "according to the will of God." (Rom. 8:27) Intercession means to plead on behalf of another. Will you be the one to stand in the gap, to plead with God on behalf of another? God can touch that heart that is like a closed door and make it open to Jesus. He wants to save — it's now up to you to pray.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN

Matt. 11:1-9; Mark 9:2-10; Luke 9:28-36

There is something about a mountain that makes you feel good. I lived in the mountains for a good many years and I liked to climb to the tops of mountains. Sometimes it takes a lot of effort to ciimb a high mountain. You may have to walk for several hours over steep trails, rocks and water, but when you reach the top, how inspiring it is! From the top of a high mountain you can see for miles. It makes one feel very small but it makes God seem very big. To see the trees, waterfalls and range upon range of other mountains, brings God very close. It helps you to know that God made the earth and all that is therein. God created the little wild flowers, the birds, the insects, tiny ants and bugs, then we realize that He also made the mountains and the whole earth! When we gaze out across the valleys and see all this, it can only cause God to become real to us.

One time Jesus took Peter, James and John up into a high mountain to pray. As Jesus prayed the disciples noticed that He began to change His appearance. Jesus was transfigured before them and His face did shine like the sun and His clothes became white and glistening. Peter, James and John were amazed at that they saw, but all of a sudden there appeared two other men, Moses and Elijah. Moses had died nearly fifteen hundred years before and Elijah had been taken up in a chariot of fire nearly nine hundred years before. They were talking with Jesus. How could this be? They knew Jesus and talked about how He would die at Jerusalem.

Jesus came into this world to die. Because man had sinned Jesus was willing to die and pay the debt of sin. Because Jesus died, you and I have the opportunity to choose to live for Jesus. If we live for Him Jesus has promised us that after we die we will live again — for ever! Peter, James and John really had a mountain top experience. Would you like to have been there? To see Jesus and Moses and Elijah in glory — that would have been wonderful. It would be worth climbing the highest mountain to see what Peter, James and John say that day.

Someday, if we are faithful to Jesus, we will see Him. John says that when He shall appear we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. Will there be mountains in heaven? John says, (Rev. 21:10), "And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain and showed me that great city, the new Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God."

We have to get up on top to see. We must get above — we must strive for the good things in life — we must live for Christ! Like

Mary, the sister of Lazarus, Jesus said, "Mary hath chosen that good part which shall not be taken away from her." The top of the mountains can be ours if we are willing to climb.

Brother Rudy Cover

REST

In a former issue of the Bible Monitor, I have brought to our attention the importance of obtaining peace and union of righteousness, the way to the Eternal Home of peace and rest. Are we letting our lights shine that men may see our good works and God be glorified?

As we grow older in life we feel the need of more rest. True Christians will not take part in a violence that destroys the peace and rest of others. Rest is an important necessity of life and appears many times in God's Word. To sustain life and maintain health, a certain amount of rest is needed. I think most of us have experienced that after a day's labor we expect to get a good night's sleep and rest. Often it has been destroyed by someone calling for help or by other disturbances. This will not be our experience in the Great Beyond.

We notice in the day in which we live that many people are indulging in sin to the extent that it appears they are depriving themselves of much needed rest. We know of some who through their sins have destroyed the night's rest of others. Some day they will reap from the seed they have sown. "And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away and be at rest." Psa. 55:6. In this scripture we see a man after God's own heart, who desires and looks forward to a place of undisturbed rest. We find others in God's Word who were looking forward toward the great rest. "Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is my throne and the earth is my footstool; where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?" Isa. 66:1. "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein." Jer. 6:16. It is manifest in our day that many will not walk in the path of righteousness. The way of sin does not lead to an undisturbed rest. In our day there is no respect for the aged nor visits to the sick, rather there is a placing of hardships upon hardships.

The laws of the land are opposed to violence and disturbing the peace and rest. Strife and violence should never appear at places of worship. Before God flooded the earth with water it was filled with violence. If we look into the record of Christ's life we see a

man without sin who was often disturbed from his earthly rest. He said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heaven laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matt. 11:28-29. As we look into the life of Paul and other great leaders, their earthly lives were often disturbed from rest and great suffering was their experience. I believe Christ was awake praying to God spending much time in prayer at night, when He really felt He needed rest. I believe He was tired when taken to the cruel death on the Cross. I believe the Apostle Paul felt he needed rest as he was punished for his labor for the Lord. I believe also that other faithful apostles needed rest as they suffered for their work in Christ Jesus.

When an unclean spirit is gone out of a man he walketh through dry places seeking rest and findeth none. Matt. 12:43. True Christians do not take part in carnal strife, violence or vandalism. These are not the fruits of the spirit. They are the works of darkness. We cannot be a light to the world and take part in the works of darkness. Often those who have no respect for others have none for self. Carnal strife, violence and vandalism are a disturbance to peace and rest. Satan is the author of such.

We can think of many faithful ones who are resting from the tears and sufferings of earth, who were here in this world. Many times our much needed rest is destroyed. By the help of God, we can stand the storms of life's pathway. Carnal strife, violence, vandalism and all evil are destructive and lead on to eternal destruction. If we are true to the saving Gospel of Christ, we will enjoy the eternal place of peace and rest.

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* NEWS FLASH *

WHAT SHALL I DO?

Government Regulations:

All men born in 1960, to register in the week of July 21, at the nearest Post Office.

All men born in 1961, to register in the week of July 28 at the nearest Post Office.

All men born in 1962, to register at the nearest Post Office, beginning January 1, 1981.

What does the Bible say: Christ is the prince of peace. Isa. 9:6.

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal". 2 Cor. 10:3-4. "But I

say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you," Matt. 5:44. "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good," Rom. 12:21.

What does the church say: Learning the art of war and participating in carnal warfare or service in any branch of military establishment, at any time, is forbidden by the Scripture. Working in defense plants is inconsistent with Christianity.

What do former Conscientious Objectors say:

1. Study the Bible and make your personal conclusions.
2. Be careful and definite in every statement that you sign.
3. Determine to suffer for Christ, if necessary, financially or otherwise.
4. Live a consistent Christian life in word, in actions, in every way of life.
5. Whatever else you may do, never put on a military uniform.
6. Be law abiding in every word and action, as far as you feel you are able.

Howard J. Surbey, Exec. Sec.
Civilian Service Board

NEWS ITEMS

NOTICE

The new secretary of the General Mission Board is Elder Hayes Reed. Please send all donations for the Board to him at 1433 Overholtzer Drive, Modesto, California 95355 for his records.

SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Shrewsbury Congregation is looking forward to Revival Meetings for two weeks from August 3 to August 17. The Lord willing Bro. Dennis St. John of Stryker, Ohio will be our evangelist.

We urge your prayerful support of these services and we welcome your attendance. Come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

The Lord willing, the Dallas Center, Iowa Dunkard Brethren Church plans to hold revival meetings from August 3 to August 17. Elder H. Edward Johnson of Wauseon, Ohio is to be the evangelist.

We plan to have all day meetings August 16 and 17, with a Lovefeast the evening of the 16th.

You are invited to come and be with us at these meetings.

Sister Juanita Reed, Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AUGUST

August 3 — Repentance; Healing on the Sabbath. Luke 13:1-17.
August 10 — The Kingdom of God; The Strait Gate. Luke 13:18-35.
August 17 — Jesus Teaches Humility; The Great Supper. Luke 14:1-24.
August 24 — Forsaking All for Christ. Luke 14:25-35.
August 31 — The Lost Sheep; The Prodigal Son. Luke 15:1-32.

QUESTIONS:

(1) Why is repentance so essential? Luke 13:3, 5.
(2) Jesus healed a woman on the Sabbath. What proved the ruler of the synagogue to be a hypocrite? Luke 13:15, 16.
(3) Why is the Kingdom of God likened unto leaven? Luke 13:21.
(4) Why did many who sought to enter the strait gate, fail to do so? Luke 13:24, 27.
(5) Why is it better to be humble? Luke 14:11.
(6) What do you think was the reason that the wedding guests made excuses to not attend the supper they were invited to? Luke 14:18-20.
(7) How can salt lose its savor?
(8) Jesus said that there is more joy over one sinner that repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance. Which of the following would you say was the most important reason:
(1) The person was a sinner. (2) He repented. (3) He was victorious over sin.
(9) Why did the father give the prodigal son such a royal welcome? Luke 15:32.

PARDON FROM KING

A man was being tried for a crime, the punishment of which was death. The witnesses came in one by one and testified to his guilt. But there he stood, calm and unmoved. The judge and jury were surprised at his indifference, and did not understand how he could take such a serious matter so calmly. When the jury returned the verdict was "guilty," and when the judge passed sentence upon him, he told the criminal how surprised he was that he could be so unmoved in the prospect of death. When the judge had finished, the man drew a document from his bosom and walked out of the dock, a free man. The document was a pardon from the king and the prisoner was a free man.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR AUGUST, 1980
DEATH

Memory Verse: Col. 1:18
And he is the head of the body, the church; who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Fri. 1 - Col. 1:1-29
Sat. 2 - Col. 2:1-23

Memory Verse: Col. 2:13
And you being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

Sun. 3 - Col. 3:1-25
Mon. 4 - I Thess. 1:1-10
Tues. 5 - I Thess. 4:1-18
Wed. 6 - I Tim. 5:1-25
Thurs. 7 - 2 Tim. 2:1-25
Fri. 8 - 2 Tim. 4:1-22
Sat. 9 - Heb. 6:1-20

Memory Verse: I Thess. 4:16
For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangle, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Sun. 10 - Heb. 9:1-28
Mon. 11 - Heb. 11:1-19
Tues. 12 - Heb. 11:20-40
Wed. 13 - Heb. 13:1-25
Thurs. 14 - James 2:1-26
Fri. 15 - I Pet. 1:1-25
Sat. 16 - I Pet. 2:1-25

Memory Verse: Heb. 11:4
By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

Sun. 17 - I Pet. 4:1-19
Mon. 18 - Jude 1-25
Tues. 19 - Rev. 1:1-20
Wed. 20 - Rev. 2:1-29
Thurs. 21 - Rev. 3:1-22
Fri. 22 - Rev. 11:1-19
Sat. 23 - Rev. 14:1-20

Memory Verse: James 2:26
For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

Sun. 24 - Rev. 20:1-15
Mon. 25 - Num. 23:1-24
Tues. 26 - Deut. 19:1-21
Wed. 27 - Deut. 24:6-22
Thurs. 28 - Deut. 30:1-20
Fri. 29 - Jos. 2:1-24
Sat. 30 - Ruth 1:1-22

Memory Verse: Rev. 14:13
And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

Sun. 31 - I Sam. 20:1-23

Memory Verses: Rev. 20:12
And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

Deut. 30:19
I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII AUGUST 1, 1980 NO. 15

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

COME, HOLY SPIRIT, DOVE DIVINE

Come, Holy Spirit, Dove divine,
On these baptismal waters shine,
And teach our hearts, in highest strain,
To praise the Lamb, for sinners slain.

We love Thy name, we love Thy laws,
And joyfully embrace Thy cause;
We love Thy cross, the shame, the pain,
O Lamb of God, for sinners slain.

We sink beneath Thy mystic flood;
O bathe us in Thy cleansing blood;
We die to sin, and seek a grave,
With Thee, beneath the yielding wave.

And as we rise, with Thee to live,
O let the Holy Spirit give
The sealing unction from above,
The breath of life, the fire of love.

— Adoniram Judson

LIVING WATER

Some things are necessities in this life. Others are very important and are nearly necessities. Other things are for our convenience. They save time and effort. Lastly, there are things which are merely for ornamentation or pleasure. They do not have a serious purpose. There is much time and money wasted upon these unnecessary things.

One of the necessities of life is water which is useful in many different ways. The human body needs water to quench thirst. Water is needed for washing the body and its clothes. It is necessary not only for humans but also for the livestock that provide food and raiment. Rain is needed to water the crops and provide our drinking water.

Water is not only a necessity in the physical life, but also in the Spiritual life. When Jesus met the Samaritan woman at Jacob's Well, He revealed to her that she had a greater need for the water He had to give, than He had for the water she drew from the well. She could draw the water for a drink but that drink would not continually satisfy. But He offered water that was continually available. He offered her living water.

The water in Jacob's Well was far below ground level. A vessel had to be lowered to get the water, then it had to be raised again and carried home. The water He offered was springing up. It is little wonder that she was so eager to be rid of such a task. But He was not offering physical water but the water of Spiritual life. Though she might thirst again for common water, she no longer needed to thirst for Spiritual water.

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Today many are like the woman at the well, dry and dead, spiritually. They need the living water she received. Although this interview occurred many centuries ago, the same living water is still available today. Jesus could supply her and He can supply you and I today.

This springing well of water is available to each who will avail himself of it. We may not fully understand the dynamics of this living water, yet we can put it to good use. We do not fully understand everything about physical water, yet we do not refuse it because of our ignorance. Likewise we should not refuse the water of eternal life.

A good spring will send forth its waters during all seasons of the year. The coldest winter will not freeze it and the hottest summer will not dry it up. Likewise this fountain of living water will continue to issue forth no matter what adverse circumstances may come in the Christian life. Adversity will be a part of the Christian life, there will be struggles and heartaches. At those times the living water is very important. There is joy and newness at the beginning of the Christian life and there is joy at the end when the Christian's hope is fulfilled. In between there will be many occasions when the vibrant, living water will be needed. The living waters flow when we acknowledge that we need help that is greater than what we can provide for ourselves. When we rely upon the Spirit of God, which is pictured here as living water, we can overcome the hindrances along the way. The Spirit will lead us aright throughout the journey of life and will constantly refresh us like a cup of cold water.

Water is necessary not only to quench the thirst but to cleanse the body. Water is also needed for spiritual cleansing. It is through the baptismal waters that we symbolically come in contact with the blood of Christ. It is not the physical cleansing properties of the water that is effective in cleansing away sins. It is the faith, obedience and repentant nature of the one being baptized that is effective. Even though the physical water is not the cleansing agent, it is still necessary. Without the application of the physical water, there will be no springing forth of the living water. In the washing of the water and the renewal of the Spirit a person is reborn. That spiritual water is ready to change that man from within.

Water is important in every life. In the Christian's life, it not only has a part in the new birth, but it is from time to time used to clean away the dirt stains that hamper him. He needs his feet washed to be every whit clean and to continue to have a part with his Saviour. Again the physical water, though its presence is needed, is not the real cleansing agent. It is an examined, repentant, loving heart that must be there.

Living water is as necessary to the Spiritual life as physical water is to the natural life. Do you have that living water within you?

HOW MUCH DO YOU CARE?

There are times when people suffer very serious injuries which cannot be repaired. As a result, a hand, foot or other part of the body must be amputated. Even though the injured part is gone, the body still "feels" its presence. A hand still gets cold, a leg aches — this is called "phantom pain or sensation." It is the body's way of still caring even for the missing parts. As part of the body of Christ, you should care for all the other parts (persons), whether present or absent, sick or healthy spiritually.

People get very upset when even a small part of their body must be removed. They recognize that each part has a purpose, is useful and needed, and will not hastily consent to its removal. When someone backslides from God and spiritual death could occur, we should be even more concerned. Each person in the body of Christ has a purpose, is useful and needed in some way. We should not hastily consent to their removal from us, but should care for others as we care for ourselves.

Does it really matter to you when a member of the body of Christ becomes "injured?" Maybe you think you don't need him or her, that you'd be just as well off without his fellowship. What do you think Christ's feelings are when someone is not strong enough to in faith? Does it concern only Christ, or do you suffer for your brother's sake also? "So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." Rom. 12:5. If you are part of Christ's body, you are a part of every other member. All have been joined together in Christ, and if anyone is spiritually wounded or leaves the body, all should feel the loss.

"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us." Rom. 12:6a. We don't all have the same functions in Christ's body, anymore than all parts of our physical bodies have the same ones. Yet each is needed. "Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary." I Cor. 12:22. Someone in the body may not seem very important to you, in fact, they may not measure up at all to what you think they should be. But how much of your own body are you willing to get rid of, just because you or someone else doesn't think it is important?

"That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it." I Cor. 12:25-26a. A schism is a division or separation. If your physical body becomes divided, some part will die, so you try to be sure that doesn't happen. In the body of Christ, we are to be united also, not divided or cut apart. This doesn't mean we will all be alike or

function in exactly the same way, but it does mean we have a common purpose — to serve God. It means that we care about each other and if one member suffers an injury, we all rally in support.

Your little toe is a very small part of your body. It may not seem very important, and you are probably not aware of its function as part of your foot. However, if you bang that little toe into a chair or drop a brick on it, you will soon realize how important it is. You will make everyone around you aware of your suffering, because of your reaction. You will receive sympathy, not laughter, from those who know how you feel. When Satan "drops a brick" on that person who seems unimportant or useless, as compared to your little toe, do you care? Do you suffer also, and desire to help?

"We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves." Rom. 15:1. When we have surgery or an accidental injury, our whole body is aware of it. When we have a broken leg, we help it by using crutches and the strong leg until the break has healed. When we have surgery, we rest and restrict our activities so the wound can heal. We don't just ignore the injured part and do as we please, because we know that such carelessness would cause more problems. The members of Christ's body should care for each other likewise. We who are strong need to be a leaning post for one who is weak. We ought to provide support when someone is afflicted or when his faith is being tried. We are never so strong that we don't need to help each other.

"And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?" I Cor. 8:11. It is a sin against Christ when you wound the weak conscience of a brother. You have no right to do as you please or say what you please, regardless of who it hurts. Even the truth can be used as a club which will only wound someone. The truth must be spoken in love, in a way which will be understood and accepted. Christ died for the weak and helpless, as well as for those who are stronger. Your care should reach out to them also. Does it? How much do YOU care?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

It has been a maxim with me to admit of easy reconciliation with a person whose offense proceeded from no depravity of heart; but where I was convinced it did so, to forego, for my own sake, all opportunities of revenge. I have derived no small share of happiness from this principle. — Shenstone.

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD"

Matt. 16:13-20; Mark 8:27-30; Luke 9:18-21

Do you ever forget people's names? Do you ever wonder just who a person is and where you have seen him before? I think we all experience this. Even when we think we know a person and can remember his name, how much do we really know about them? Jesus was a man who was seen of many people. He preached to thousands and healed the sick or afflicted. Nothing was too hard for Him. He healed them all and they were made perfectly whole. You would think that everyone would know who Jesus was, but many people didn't.

One day Jesus came near a town called Cesarea Philippi. It was a town in the northern part of Palestine. It is located in the beautiful hill country on the southern slopes of Mt. Hermon. It is near one of four streams of water that flow into the Jordan River. Jesus asked His disciples, "Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

His disciples said, "Some say you are John, the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." John, the Baptist, had recently been killed by King Herod; Elijah had been dead nine hundred years; Jeremiah, six hundred years and the other prophets had been dead for a long time. Why did people think Jesus could be one of these men? I suppose, because He did so many miracles, that they thought He must be one of the prophets who had come to life again. Elijah had done many miracles by the power of God. Then Jesus asked His disciples, "But whom do you say that I am?"

The disciples wondered about what they should say, but Peter who was always quick to answer said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." This was one time Peter had it just right. Jesus was the Christ whom the prophets had said would come and heal the sick, cause the blind to see and the deaf to hear. He was the Son of God; "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Jesus told Peter no man had revealed this unto him but his Father in Heaven. Peter was just a man, but God can put into a person's heart the right thing to say, if they really trust in Him. Jesus said that upon this answer, "Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God," He would build His Church. Jesus is the rock. He is a sure foundation. "There is none other name in heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Jesus is the Christ who was prophesied to come into the world. He taught people about God and Heaven and how to live. He died on a cruel, rugged cross so we could have our sins forgiven. He is the Son of the living God. He arose from the grave and lives forever more. If we believe His Word and do what He says, we, too, can have eternal life.

Brother Rudy Cover

Continued from Page 13

I want to enumerate a few of the New Testament teachings which are to be observed in the Church which Jesus Christ says, "I will build." We teach and practice trine immersion baptism, why? That is what the Bible teaches. John baptized Jesus in the River Jordan. We see Jesus in the water, the Holy Spirit descending on Him in the form of a dove and the voice of God saying "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." We believe that is the way Jesus was baptized. When Philip met up with the Eunuch and preached to him he must have been preaching baptism, because as they came to water the Eunuch said, "Here is water what doth hinder me to be baptized?" Philip said, "If thou believest thou may." He said, "I believe." Philip took him down into the water and baptized him and they came up out of the water. That's Bible baptism. I wouldn't be satisfied with any other form of baptism. That is what the Dunkard Brethren Church means to me. Also Jesus told Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again." Nicodemus said, "How could that be? Could I re-enter my mother's womb and be born again." "No," Jesus said, "Be born of water and of the Spirit." The water's first, remember. The trend is you don't need to be baptized. How are you going to be born into the family of God if you don't experience a re-birth? I'll go along with the Dunkard Brethren Church.

Jesus went into the Temple one day, where he saw the money changers making His house a house of merchandise. What did He do? He cleansed that temple, did he not? I appreciate that the Dunkard Brethren Church does not have suppers and bazaars, ice cream socials and so forth, because I believe Jesus Christ would cleanse us if He were here. He said you make My house a den of thieves. You make it a house of merchandise. What do we have today over Christiandom? I'll let you answer that. The Church of Jesus Christ is not a style show, it is not a house of merchandise. I thank God that we take our stand.

Five times in the Word of God we are commanded to greet one another with an holy kiss. We as a Church observe that. I said there are things related to the Word of God and how God worked this out. I want to just show you here. We are not to be users of tobacco

and liquor and dope and all that the world is using today. We are to greet one another with an holy kiss. We as a Church believe that and we stay away from these unholy things. How can I greet my brother with an holy kiss with tobacco juice on my mouth or the taint of cigarettes on my tongue. See how God worked this out? Come out from the world and be ye separate. Don't do what the world does. And I'm thankful the Church doesn't.

We read in the Word of God if there be any sick among you let him call for the elders of the Church and be anointed with oil in the name of the Lord for the healing of the body, for the forgiveness of sins, and for the strengthening of the faith. You know that's a wonderful ordinance. There have been miracles come out of the anointing. You know there's a lot of denominations that don't practice it. We have in the Word of God those things which accommodate salvation and the anointing is one. Thanks be to God that we have that service. God knows the blessings that He'll bestow to those who carry out that ordinance.

It reminds me of fifty-seven years ago when Conference was at Calgary, Canada. I got on the train going to that Conference. After that Conference our group went on to California. We went into a restaurant one day, where the sign said, "All Meals Served Family Style - 35¢." When we were about finished with our meal, they came around with big trays of pie. Anyone who wanted a piece could have one. One man in our group could easily have had a piece, but he was very close with his money. He turned it down. When we went up to the register we all paid 35¢ including this man. He regretted he hadn't eaten that piece of pie. Every time afterwards when we went into a restaurant and they asked if he wanted pie, he asked, "Does it go with the meal?" My point is, there's a lot of things that go with Salvation that are ours if we obey the Word.

The prayer veil and long hair on the sisters. Not many denominations observe this anymore. The hair that is cut off of the women becomes a shame to Almighty God. The Word says a sister is to be covered. The hair is not a covering. She is to be covered in time of praying and prophesying. And I question that there is any time that a sister isn't doing one or the other. I think she should be covered because of the angels. I have seen Churches which at one time observed that and have lost it. May we never give up these wonderful, beautiful ordinances.

Non-conformity in dress. You know it is just about to the point you have to be ashamed to go to the grocery store. Even professing women are not ashamed to bare their bodies. In California there is a large painting of the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ. As a recording gives the message and the scripture,

there is an electric hand that points to each thing it refers to. Very few people can go in there and see that but what shed tears. You have to buy a ticket to go in there. Ahead of me was a man, a woman and their daughter, perhaps twenty years old. She had on shorts and a bikini. The ticket seller sold the parents a ticket but when she came and put her money in the window he said, "I'm sorry, no admittance, dressed like you're dressed." She said, "Well, I came from North Dakota and I want to see that picture." "Well," he said, "you can't go in the way you are. Don't you have some dresses with you." She said, "No." He said, "Do you mean to tell me you came from North Dakota and didn't bring any dresses with you." She said, "No." "You can't go in then." Her father spoke up, "She can go in. She dresses like that and sits in our choir." The man said, "I don't care where she sits in your choir, she's not going in here." She didn't. In the Holy Land is a large stone Church with a great big stone over the door. Engraved in that stone centuries ago, "No one admitted immodestly clothed." And they didn't get in. Doesn't that put us to shame in this generation. I believe in the Dunkard Brethren Church because we don't believe in a thing like that. We believe that's the world and not the Church.

I am thankful to God that we maintain our stand on divorce and re-marriage. It's happening in modern Christiandom. I'm in the Dunkard Brethren Church because we don't do that — we don't believe in that. The Bible teaches against that. We're living in a day when men and women are living together who have been married and aren't married, and that's contrary to scripture. I've read of a certain General Conference in which they decided that they would install homosexuals in the ministry. Do you remember when He chose the seventy what the instructions were, what the qualifications were? It surely doesn't include homosexuals. That's how the world is contaminating the Church. The Church is to make an impression on the world and not the world on the Church.

I'm thinking of the feet washing. I know denominations that practiced that but they don't anymore. But Jesus said, "If I wash thee not thou hast no part with me." I don't believe Jesus ever used a double standard. I believe we are to do, as Jesus gave us the example. That is one of the ordinances of God's House, that's New Testament teaching and I believe it's observed in the Church of Jesus Christ.

Non-swearing, non-lying, conscienous objectorship. Oh, there's many more. I believe Christiandom has failed in her job. And I believe that is one of the reasons that we are experiencing devastating floods, volcanic eruptions, tornadoes, earthquakes, robbery, rapes, unemployment, devaluation of the dollar, the

holding of the hostages. I believe it's because America has gotten too far off the Rock. The children of Israel when they had a king that obeyed God, God fought their battles for them. When they had a king that knew not God, the children of Israel lost. Jesus said, "Will I find faith on earth when I come again?" I can answer that. The Church of Jesus Christ will maintain faith, although the Bible teaches there will be few.

Some years ago I held a revival in California. I spent a day with a Deacon who showed me nineteen churches and pointed out the teaching of each one. Now he said we have one more to go to. He drove over to our own little church. He said I'm in this Church because I don't need to go to the other nineteen. I can get it all here. And my prayer is that we maintain that position, especially as we see His Coming drawing nigh. I believe in the Dunkard Brethren Church because I believe she is trying to carry out the will of God. This is exactly what the Dunkard Church means to me.

I want to feel like Paul when it comes down to the end of time for me. Paul said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith." That is my prayer for all of you. Let us keep the faith that was once delivered unto the saints. If we do nothing we are not a part of the Church that Jesus is coming for. Maintain the faith, don't let these ordinances and these doctrines pass as we have seen so many places. Let us earnestly contend for the faith.

To be continued

1980 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from July 15, 1980 Issue

Sunday Morning

Moderator: Elder Edward Johnson

Chorister: Elder James Kegerreis

Speaker: Elder Warren Smith. Phil. 3.

Why do we make great efforts to attend Conference? We need to conform to something. We feel the need to be with Christians. Are we walking by one rule? We must conform to the teaching of God's Word. Even businessmen want their employees to dress alike, why should not the Church demand the same? Of all the beliefs in the world, which can we believe? We must believe the Word of God. We must have a zeal in our service for Christ. We are living for the future not the past.

Sunday A.M.

Moderator: Elder Jacob Ness.

Chorister: Brother Larry Andrews.

Opening: Elder David Ebling. John 15.

The figure of the vineyard was used by Jesus to picture the need for both the vine and the branch to produce fruit. We need to have a close relationship with Jesus so we can bear fruit. Gal. 5 contains the fruit of the Spirit. The first three picture our relationship with God. The second three our relationship with our fellowman and the last three are those within us.

First Speaker: Elder Paul R. Myers. What the Dunkard Brethren Church Means to Me. Matt. 16:13-20.

I believe the Dunkard Brethren Church is built upon the Rock, so I have chosen this subject. I am not here to criticize other denominations but to testify of the Lord Jesus Christ, the hope that lieth within me.

I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God, who purchased the Church with His own blood. He said, "I will build my Church." He did not say "churches." We believe according to the Scriptures that the Church which Jesus Christ built is in full conformity with the teachings of the New Testament. I do not believe Jesus built a Church contrary to the Word of God. I believe the New Testament is the blueprint for the Church wherein we can save our souls, wherein we can gain Heaven. That is the Church I believe that I am in. It is the Church that Jesus built, that He is going to come for. We must obey the teachings of Christ to be in that Church. He left Heaven, to come to this sin-cursed earth, where he shed His blood on the cross of Calvary to pay for the full atonement of your sins and mine. That is the kind of Church that Jesus gave His life for.

I am firmly of the faith that we have to be in the Church that Jesus built, it we want to be saved, if we're going to gain entrance into that Beautiful City over yonder.

Jesus taught a wonderful lesson about builders. Some built upon the rocks, the storms and floods came but that building stood. Some built on the sand, the floods and storms came and that building was destroyed. I would compare that to the Church. The true Church of Jesus Christ will stand. The gates of hell shall not prevail against it. You have to be on the right foundation in order to build a Christian life that is acceptable to God. We have to be on that Rock because Satan is out to destroy us. He is creating terrific storms today. I am thankful though He is powerful, the Rock, the Lord Jesus Christ, is all powerful.

I have not chosen this subject to belittle anyone's faith. If I can bring some comparison, something from the Word of God that can cause each of us to be drawn a little nearer to God, live a little closer, obey the Scriptures just a little more, that's my motive. I have heard from this pulpit, nearly every speaker believes the time is short till Jesus comes for His Church. And I believe that. And I want to be a part of that Bride.

I want to encourage us all. True, faithful members of the Church, don't give up. The prize is not given at the beginning nor in the middle but at the end of the race. Those who are pillars in the Church remain pillars, even grow stronger. To those who are in the Church and are a little indifferent about their soul's salvation maybe not as strong for the Church as they once were, maybe they have weakened a little bit, I encourage you to reassess your life. Whatever it takes get back, get right with God. The Church of Jesus Christ is the only means whereby we can go to Heaven. To the young converts who have recently come into the Church, I encourage you to take up the work of the Church. Just resign yourself to the work of the Church, just do what the Church asks you. If you're faithful as you go along through life, God may have a special calling for you. I can assure you, Brothers and Sisters, that when you accepted the Lord Jesus Christ you made the best and most serious decision of your life. It is not only for time but it goes on through eternity. To those who are on the outside, who have never considered the worth of their souls, who have never accepted the Lord Jesus Christ, I warn you to enter the ark before the door is shut. The five foolish virgins thought that they would make it at the last minute, but when they came back from trying to get oil, what happened? The door was closed. I can almost hear them, "Lord, Lord open up unto us." The Lord didn't. The door was shut. When Christ comes there will be no second chance.

I believe that the Dunkard Brethren Church conforms to Jesus and the New Testament teachings regarding ordinances and commandments. I believe the Dunkard Brethren Church is a called-out people and I have every right to believe that we can win salvation and Heaven if we obey our doctrine and creed.

This is not a new way of life. In 1708 Bro. Alexander Mack and seven other souls, after prayer, meditation and fasting, received from God the direction of the Holy Spirit. When those eight souls were taken down into the Eder River, they separated themselves from the world and the state church. I feel more safe in the Dunkard Brethren Church than in any other denomination I know of. That's my feelings. I realize scattered over Christendom, there are individual, independent congregations that are living close to the Word, but as for me and my house, I am well pleased where we are at.

What the Dunkard Brethren Church means to me is an assembly of believers and doers. We are to be not only hearers but doers of the Word. I like where I am working, the love one for another, the fellowship we're enjoying. This is a little bit of Heaven. What will it be like when the redeemed of all ages are garnered in and there we

meet together with Christ and the Saints of God? It is worth every sacrifice we make here. If we miss Heaven we have missed it all.

I feel sorry for those who worship Mohammed or Buddha or Confusius or others. Again I am not condemning their position but we are taught to worship God. I am thankful that is the position of the Dunkard Brethren Church. "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." Not that we should be afraid of God but we should be very careful about keeping all of His commandments and His ordinances. I am in the Dunkard Brethren Church because I believe we carry them out as close as any body of believers.

I believe the Dunkard Brethren Church is a shelter from the world. Our dress, our manner of speech, our conduct before the world places us in a situation wherein is protection. We don't go to the dance halls and beer parlors and the worldly places of amusement. Yet, I know with some denominations that is no factor. You go to Church and any place else you want to go. My Bible says, "Come ye out from among them and be ye a separate people saith the Lord." And I believe that. We can not claim to do the work of the Holy Spirit and be affiliated with the world.

I want to try to emphasize just how God made provision that we might be a separate people. And how all things work together like a jigsaw puzzle. You leave one piece out and you don't have a complete puzzle. You leave one commandment out and you don't have the Church of Jesus Christ. You leave one ordinance out and what do you have? It is like that unfinished puzzle. The Brethren fully uphold separation from the world, which is almost unique today among the various denominations.

I believe in the Dunkard Brethren Church because she believes in the King James Version. There's many advanced versions today which we don't believe in. One of the reasons is, we are commanded not to add to or to take from the Word of God. Many of the revised versions come along to accomodate those who do not want to carry out the full gospel.

I firmly believe that Jesus Christ brought from Heaven a saving Gospel and there is none other. I believe in the mission of the Holy Spirit and I'm sure the Holy Spirit will not lead anybody contrary to the Word of God. I believe the Holy Spirit will properly interpret the Gospel that Jesus brought and will aid us in obeying that Gospel, if we are seeking to be a part of that Church which Jesus said, "I will build." I'm thankful on the front page of our Bible Monitor we read this motto: "Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice." That covers a lot of territory but that is one of the reasons I'm in the Dunkard Brethren Church.

Continued on Page 7

AND THE SNAKE HAD NO INVITATION....

Last Sunday as we were singing in the Ant Hill Church, Mae and Peggy Toledo came in. Right away Mae spied something behind me and up. Then everybody was looking and I had to find out also.

Very nicely, hurting nobody, and lying on the sill (the church is a shell) was a snake — harmless, but nonetheless, a snake.

Bro. David tried to continue the service, thinking we would leave each other alone, but it began to crawl. We knew we would have to get the snake out or nobody would pay attention to the service. He asked me to sing and he would get the snake out which he proceeded to do after finding a box and a stick.

Needless to say, few were helping to sing, so after the first verse I sat down and we all watched. The snake did not want to leave! His trail went along half of the church, behind some insulation and eventually out the door. During this time the unpredictable Mr. Snake alarmed the audience. One lady got up on her chair, others swiftly moved whenever the snake seemed to be coming in their direction and utterances came although subdued.

We encourage all people to come to church, but the snake was not invited nor wanted. Furthermore, he did not want to leave. The snake provided Bro. David with good subject matter as he went into his sermon and we had a good message.

As I have had many thoughts about this snake since then, I had to compare him to the confusion that seemingly harmless "snakes" are causing in our churches. These "snakes" appear harmless but if they are allowed to remain in the church they become as poisonous as rattlers, causing divisions, confusion, misunderstandings, discord, unrest and the list goes on.

Cannot we all use our "sticks" (swords) and get rid of these snakes?

Sister Mildred Skiles
Cuba, New Mexico

UNLIMITED EFFICACY

Let us think of the innumerable stars — millions and millions. Let us suppose them all to be densely inhabited for countless ages by races of fallen beings. We have no figures to show the number of the individual souls, still less to represent the multiplied acts of sin of all those single souls or spirits. But we know this, that the blood of Jesus would have been more than sufficient to cleanse all those countless fallen creatures, and to absolve every separate sinner from every one of his manifold sins.

MARRIAGE

REED - MYERS

Sister Donna Marie Reed, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Carl Reed, Grandview, Missouri and Bro. David Dale Myers, son of Bro. and Sis. Nelson Myers, Manheim, Pennsylvania were united in marriage May 24, 1980 at the Grandview Dunkard Brethren Church.

The ceremony was performed by Bro. Fred Pifer, of Adel, Iowa.

The couple will be at home at Box 6, Dallas Center, Iowa 50063.

NEWS ITEMS

SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND

The Swallow Falls Congregation announces their upcoming revival services. They will begin August 15 and close on August 24, with the morning services. Lovefeast will begin on August 23 at 2:00. Evening services at 7:30 each evening. Bro. John Peffer will be our evangelist. Come and worship with us.

Sister Carolyn Mellott, Cor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Waynesboro Congregation is again looking forward in prayer to another Spirit-filled revival, beginning Monday, September 1, 1980 and continuing for two weeks. The Lord willing, Elder Allen Eberly from Ephrata, Pennsylvania plans to be with us at that time. We beg an interest in your prayers and extend a hearty invitation for all to come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

THANKS

I wish to thank each of you dear ones for remembering me while in the hospital; with your prayers, hospitality, cards and love.

May God bless each of you for the same.

Yours in Christian love,
Brother D. Paul Reed

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Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

WHAT SHALL IT BE?

Out of this life I shall never take
  Things of silver and gold I make.
All that I cherish and hord away,
  After I leave, on this earth must stay.

Though I have toiled for a painting rare
  To hang on the wall, I must leave it there.
Though I call it mine, and boast its worth,
  I must give it up when I leave this earth.

All that I gather, and all that I keep,
  I must leave behind when I fall asleep.
And I often wonder what I shall own
  In that other life when I pass alone.

What shall they find, and what shall they see,
  In the soul that answers the call for me?
Shall the Great Judge learn, when my task is through,
  That my spirit has gathered some riches, too?

Or shall at last it be mine to find
  That all I'd worked for I'd left behind?

— Sunshine Magazine —
Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

A SURE THING

Men are always looking for a sure thing. Often they will make unwise decisions as they pursue that elusive thing. Men want something sure in this unsure world.

Deep down, men realize that the things of this world will last only a short time. Man has proof daily of the decay and destruction of the human body and the objects of this world. The body grows weaker as it becomes afflicted with various diseases and conditions. The objects of the world are destroyed by wind, fire or water. So the world and man are very impermanent. Although these visible things (houses, buildings and scenery) seem so permanent, they are only temporary.

As a man realizes that he has but a short lifespan, he may react in various ways. He may try to ignore his mortality by using his time for pleasure and lust, trying to persuade himself that he has nothing to worry about. Or he may wisely conclude that since life is short and eternity is long, he should use his time to prepare for that eternity he must face. The preparations made in this short, impermanent life will be the basis of his condition throughout eternity.

Eternity is an idea foreign to the finite mind of man. He is accustomed to finite limits — birth, death, hours and minutes. The human mind is boggled by beginingless and endless eternity. But eternity can not be denied simply because it is not understood. Man's denial will not cause it to cease. There are many things in this life that we do not understand yet we accept them. We do not know all concerning the tree bearing her fruit or the conception and birth of a child but we accept and depend upon these things.

THE BIBLE MONITOR AUGUST 15, 1980

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The only fear we need to have concerning eternity is how it will be spent. We need not fear death for it is our entrance into eternity. But what will that eternity hold? There are but two eternal destinies available to man. His destiny will be either Heaven or Hell. These two eternal destinations stand as extreme opposites.

Eternity is so near to mankind. An illness, an accident or an incident can usher man through the portals of death into eternity. Man has no promise of the morrow let alone of his future. It behooves him to make the necessary preparations, so if the unforeseen occurs, he will be ushered into an eternity that will be as he desired. God has an unbreakable law. Though man may try to circumvent that law, in the end he will find that he can not. The price for ignoring and disobeying God's law is terrible. That price is eternal separation from God. The law of God is "for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." This law is a sure thing.

It is not only this law but all of God's Word that is sure. It is the whole Word of God that is needed by a man if he is going to sow wisely so he will reap a profitable eternity. The man who desires to reap well must have the Bible to tell him how to live. The Bible is sure because it is not man's production but God's. God knows the eternal needs of the human heart far better than the best of men.

The origin of the Word guarantees that it is sure. The Bible is not the product of men's minds not even of holy men's minds. Holy men were activated by the Holy Spirit to give us the will of God. Considering the source of this Word, it is good for us to pay heed to it. In the darkness of the sins and philosophies of this world, the Bible stands forth as light. The mind of God is superior to any plan, program or scheme put forward by man. It leads us from that darkness that surrounds us to the eternal light of Heaven.

Peter says, "We have a more sure word of prophecy." (II Pet. 1:19-21) He not only tells us that we have a sure thing but to emphasize it he adds the comparative word "more." There is no doubt about the sureness of this word. There may be doubt about the promises of men but never concerning God's Word.

The "sure things" of this world often turn out to be frauds and disappointments. God's Word is sure and forever settled in Heaven. Thereby we can sow the proper seed that will grow up into a bountiful, spiritual harvest. To have that harvest, we must be willing to hear, accept and follow what God has given us in the Bible. If we can accept this sure thing, and make it a reality in our lives then we can look forward to an eternity that is a sure thing.

Do you have a sure thing in this life? Are you sure? Only through God's Word can you be sure.

1980 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from August 1, 1980 Issue

Sunday A.M.

Second Speaker: Elder Howard Surbey. What Manner of Persons Ought Ye to Be. II Pet. 3:11-18.

We spent 1979 in our Sunday School studying the Book of Isaiah. What did we learn? We refer to Isaiah to bring some things to you. Isaiah 19:16-25.

To get the layout of this scripture, picture Egypt to the south and west, Assyria to the east and north, and Israel is in the middle. Assyria is now Iraq and Iran. Energy is the great interest of the world today. The Middle East is the center of energy and mineral wealth. Is it possible that Egypt, Assyria and Israel may be brought together through the power of God. I am not a prophet but I would like to picture some things for us to look forward to as warnings.

Think of the riches of energy that lie in this area. Then consider the possibility of Russia moving south with five million men and China moving west with twenty-five million men to get this energy. Would this not be the Battle of Armegeddon? Peter warns us to pay attention to the old prophets.

II Pet. 3:11-18. Are we too particular about the things of God's Word? We are to be mindful of words of prophets and commandments of Apostles. We have something to do in this current life. How serious is our mission? How much time do we spend in it? How interested are we in it? How much are we willing to sacrifice for it? We have a great concern for the recent developments concerning the draft and registration. Our greatest help in being sure we do not have to bear arms in the manner of our living.

There is a lack of holy conversation and godliness. If we're careful about that, there's nothing to fear, everything will turn out okay. God will take care of His own but we must be His own. We must serve Him. We ought to be dearer to our Lord and Saviour, nearer to one another, nearer to salvation of the lost. We need to be a good influence in speech and action. We need love for one another and the Church. We need an interest in the salvation of souls. There is nothing that will make a happier, more joyful Christian life than this.

We find sometimes in our Christian lives and service that there are problems. There are some things hard to do. Some things that we have been interested in seem difficult. Why?

Do we appreciate the blessings we have in this nation? We ought to, that we might be the manner of persons that we should be.

Closing: Elder Harley Flory.

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

Sunday P.M.

Moderator: Elder Edward Johnson.

Chorister: Bro. Merle Swihart.

Opening: Elder Charles Leatherman. Phil. 2:5-16.

Jesus Christ has a name above every name. Unless He helps us build our lives, our labor will be in vain.

First Speaker: Elder Allen Eberly. Ye are... a Peculiar People. I Peter 2:9.

What does "peculiar" mean? Here is does not mean that we are hard to get along with or have exclusive views. But the meaning here, concerning the People of God, is someone who belongs to one person or truth or has the characteristics of only one. That is something worth striving for, for that person is Jesus Christ.

To be a peculiar people we must be wholly committed to God. We can not be two-faced. If we are ashamed of Him, He will be ashamed of us. We do not need to be ashamed of being a peculiar people. Matt. 6:24. We cannot serve two masters.

Ex. 19:5. A peculiar people is an obedient people. We see in the Old Testament examples of disobedience like Jonah and we see the consequences. Today we are mindful of the standards of the Church and our obedience to them if we are a peculiar people. We need a new heart. We must have God's heart transplant. We must repent of our old wickedness to have this new heart of obedience. God can work through our lives.

Titus 2:14. A peculiar people is a purified people. We must be pure in the sight of God. There are so many ways we need to purify ourselves. Ps. 135:4. The Church is a precious treasure in God's sight becaue we come by the Cross.

A peculiar people are known by the people of the world. What are the things that distinguish us from the world? They desire to be ring leaders. They often do this by their words, which are often filthy and foolish words. As a peculiar people the Bible should be as familiar as their stories and jokes are to them. What is our reaction to their words? As a pure people we should turn away from such.

A peculiar people is a helping people. They become involved in helping people through hard times. They think of others before themselves. Are you this kind of person?

Eccles. 12:1. The young should give their hearts to the Lord at the age of accountability. Do not wait until old or on deathbed to turn to God and waste all those years when you could have served Him.

The Bible speaks to each of us. It covers many areas of information. It speaks with the authority of God. As a peculiar people we believe its message, whether of Heaven or Hell or of our peculiar lives.

Some people try to be popular while others try to be holy. Jesus did not advertise His deeds but rather said, "to tell no man." There is a difference between being popular and peculiar.

A peculiar people must not have the secondary things of this world as their primary interest. We must come out and be separate from the material and political things. The peculiar born-again child of God will not be a slave to the material things of this life.

A peculiar people are an old-fashioned people. They are not a part of the latest fashions. They are the people who go to Church instead of following pleasures. We should be thankful for the standard of dress upheld by the Church. The styles and fads of the world are not for a peculiar people. God will honor a modest people.

A peculiar people is a people who respects authority. God speaks to us through the New Testament and through the manual and polity, which give the standards for the Church. Before the authority of the Church can be respected, the authority in the home must be respected. It would be easier for the Church officials to keep order in the Church, if the parents did in the home. A peculiar people are a thankful people at all times. This is a great bond in the Christian home.

The people of this world are given to impure thoughts, words, and deeds. They ignore Christian training. Their homes are not Christian homes but the parents condon all kinds of activities. Peculiar people must be faithful until death unto God and in marriage. We must teach our children Christianity. We must be a peculiar people whom God can bless.

To be continued.

YOU CAN'T PLEASE THE PHARISEES

"Critical Chris" is like a modern-day Pharisee. She is very careful about how everything looks. In her house, she keeps everything in just the right places and gets angry if things are disturbed. She expects others to be just as perfect as she thinks she is. At her neighbor's, "Critical Chris" points out the spider web in the corner and the lint on the floor. She is too busy criticizing and picking to notice her own spider webs and to remember when she swept dirt under the rug. If you will look carefully, you will probably see some "spider webs" and "dirt" in her heart also.

The Pharisees were very critical of others, thinking they were the only ones who knew and did what was right. Such criticism cannot be justified, whether it comes from the Pharisees, "Critical Chris" or from you. Yet so often people are just as critical of others as the Pharisees were, not only spiritually but in every aspect of life.

Criticism can have a positive side, but most often, it doesn't. People pick about things they don't like, or does not conform to their way of thinking, without having just cause for doing so.

Jesus could not please the Pharisees and you can't either. Whenever anyone has a critical spirit instead of a loving one, you can never please that person. No matter how hard you try, nothing you ever do will be right in that person's eyes. Either you can't do it fast enough, or you can't do it good enough, or it should have been done yesterday. A critical spirit looks for something bad in everything; the good goes unnoticed and unappreciated.

The Pharisees continually found fault with Christ. They wanted to know why He ate with publicans and sinners (Matt. 9:11), the scum of society in their estimation. Jesus told them the sick are the ones who need a physician. The Pharisees were sick (with sin) also but they didn't know it, so Jesus couldn't help them. He told them they should learn what this means, "I will have mercy, and not sacrifice." So should we. Whether it's just that someone's ways are different than ours, or there's a deep spiritual disagreement, understanding and mercy can help solve the problem. Fault-finding just makes it worse.

In Matthew 12, the Pharisees found fault with Jesus' Sabbath Day activities. Again, He tells them they don't know what this means "I will have mercy, and not sacrifice." If they had known what it meant to be kind, forgiving, ready to help others, they wouldn't have had a condemning spirit. They spent time watching Jesus, hoping to be able to trap Him in something, so they could stir up trouble. Do you ever do that? If you do, there is no way anyone could please you.

The Pharisees wondered why the disciples didn't wash before they ate. They had a tradition about washing and anyone who didn't observe it was highly condemned. Jesus asked, "Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?" Matt. 15:3. The Pharisees considered it more important to wash before a meal than to keep God's commandments. If you have a custom which means alot to you, be sure you don't allow it to push God's commands aside. Don't condemn those who differ with you, but encourage them instead to please God.

Criticism is unfavorable comment. A critical person tends to find fault or criticize harshly. To criticize is to snap at, or to pick and find fault without reason. A person who criticizes books and art must be capable of judging with accuracy. The Pharisees were not capable of accurate judgment and neither are we. Jesus said, "Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and behold, a beam is in thine own eye?" Matt. 7:4. We can't see our own faults, even when they are bigger than the faults of others, so we are not capable of correcting other people.

If you have a tendency to criticize and pick, or make unkind remarks ask yourself where your critical spirit comes from. It is not good, it doesn't make anyone happy, it ruins your Christian life and testimony. A critical spirit is discouraging; it is the opposite of a loving, caring spirit, and it does not glorify God. Jesus did not have such a spirit. He did not tear people apart with nasty remarks, but manifested a loving, compassionate spirit to them.

How can you avoid being like the Pharisees? Let love take over! "And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins." I Pet. 4:8. "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor." Rom. 13:10a. If you have been like "Critical Chris", ask the Lord to have His way in your heart, and give you a new spirit — the spirit of love. If you are being criticized, keep the spirit of love. Remember — you can't please the Pharisees, but you can please Jesus.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

WANTED: DEAD

KNOWN CRIMINAL: Attacks without warning, usually very coy and subtle.

KILLER: Can kill body and soul.

DESTROYER: Known to destroy the esteemed value of life itself. Will destroy all that is good and holy.

HOME BREAKER: Will turn wives against their husbands and husbands against their wives. Parents are turned against their children and children against their parents.

CHURCH SPLITTER: He has been known to split churches causing ministers to turn away in sorrow with their characters slandered. By breaking hearts of the saints he has destroyed christian standards and influence.

NATIONAL HATE: He has brought nation against nation and kingdom against kingdom, causing hate and distrust to grow.

ROBBER: He has turned riches into rags and kindness into bitterness.

TURNS good health into illness.

If he is not conquered, he will continue on his road of destruction leaving scenes of ruin, rivers of tears and souls suffering and tired, left with battle scars. (Read Matt. 12:35-37)

When you see evidence of his whereabouts, approach him boldly in the name of Jesus, taking the sword of faith — Word of God.

He can be caught and stopped! USE Matthew 18:18.

Anytime he isn't brought under control, he can weaken the strength of others who are working.

His aliases are: TEMPER, GOSSIP, ENVY, LIAR, JEALOUSY. His true name is THE TONGUE! (Read James 3)

by Ethel Buttram

Are we busybodies and talebearers? Or in today's terms, do we enjoy gossip — both hearing it and repeating it? How true is the saying, "Wind a gossip up and they'll run somebody down." As children of God, young and old alike, we must refrain from evil speaking and slander. It comes from an evil heart (Luke 6:45) and often arises from hatred. (Psalm 109:3). Many times it is a product of idleness. (I Tim. 5:13). The time would be so much better spent if we prayed for that person. They who indulge in it are fools (Prov. 10:18), wicked (Psalms 50:20), deceitful (Psalms 52:4), hypocrites (Prov. 11:9), and it is a characteristic of the devil (Rev. 12:10).

The effects are many: it separates friends (Prov. 16:28), causes deadly wounds (Prov. 18:8), causes strife (Prov. 26:20), creates discord among brethren (Prov. 6:19), and even murder (Ps. 31:13; Ezek. 22:9).

Because of slander, (1) by Potiphar's wife, Joseph was cast into prison (Gen. 39:14-18), (2) by the spies sent by Moses, the land of Canaan was misrepresented (Num. 14:36), (3) by Jezebel, Naboth was stoned to death (I Kings 21:9-14), (4) by the Jews, Jesus was crucified.

Psalm 52:2-3: "Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully, thou lovest evil more than good; and lying rather than to speak righteousness." Are we guilty of this evil? When we hear something about another, do we stop and ask ourselves if it is true? If we repeat an untruth, even unknowingly, we are lying. And if it is true, what benefit does it bring forth by repeating it? Prov. 11:13 says "A talebearer revealeth secrets, but he that is of a faithful spirit **concealeth** the matter." Is our desire to conceal or to reveal, to help or to hurt? Would to God we'd have a heart of love. Prov. 17:9 says, "He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends." It would be helpful to all to frequently review the guidelines on gossip which are listed in each February 1st Bible Monitor.

"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice." (Eph. 4:31). "If any man among you seem to be religious and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain." (James 1:26).

Gossip may seem like such a small thing, but we will be held accountable. I Peter 4:15 lists it along with thievery and murder. "But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters." Matt. 12:36, "But I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."

Let our prayer be Eph. 4:29, "Let no corrupt communications proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."

Here's an old song which is very appropriate:

TATTLER'S WAGON

Once I had a tattler's wagon
Which behind me I did pull,
Just as fast as I could empty it,
Some friend would fill it full.
By-and-by I got so busy
There was little else to do;
But still I'd meet the saints and sing —
"I'm going thru Jesus, I'm going thru."

Oh, we'd sing I want to seem Him —
I think somehow we lied,
For we would load our wagons up
With tattler junk inside.
And we would tattle as we went,
Over the back fence too.
Then we'd go to church and sing —
"When we all see Jesus, we'll sing and shout the victory."

We'd back our wagons up
And get another load,
And just as soon as we could go
We'd start on tattler's road.
And when we'd meet a passerby
We'd stop and fret and stew
Then dump some poison out and sing —
"Makes me love everybody, makes me love everybody,
Makes me love everybody, it's good enough for me."

Folks, the thing that we should do
Is smash those wagons now
And each one bridle his own tongue
And stop this thing somehow.
Let's stop this awful tattling
Let's bring it to an end,
And we can go to church and sing —
"In the sweet bye and bye,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore.
In the sweet bye and bye,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore."

Sister Delores Stuber

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"I'M GOING TO SUFFER; I'M GOING TO DIE"

Matt. 16:21-28; Mark 8:31-38; Luke 9:22-27

Jesus came into this world as a baby boy. He was born to die that you and I might live. Why was such a terrible thing necessary? Man had sinned by disobeying God. God is pure and holy. God cannot sin, neither can He be tempted but man can and is.

We have an enemy; his name is Satan. He is the devil. He is jealous of God and wants you and I to turn away from Him. Satan is a spiritual being. We cannot see him but he can get into our minds and suggest things that are not right for us to do. Because he is invisible, we may think that the evil things that we think of are our own ideas, but they are not. By reading the Bible, which is the Word of God, we can learn what is right and what is wrong. Sin is disobeying God.

Man had sinned and could in no way help himself. Jesus told His disciples, "I'm going to suffer; I'm going to die and be crucified on a cross so that God will forgive your sins." Jesus was tempted in every way that we are — yet without sin. He was the Holy One of God. He was pure and undefiled. God could accept a sacrifice that was without sin. Jesus was the only one who could pay that debt and satisfy the righeousness of God.

We should never forget how difficult it was for Christ to give His life for the sins of the world. To be crucified on a cross was the punishment for the worst of crimes. Jesus had to be made to look like a criminal so we could have our sins forgiven. This was what was so hard for Jesus to do. He had neve sinned. To be made to look like the worst of sinners was repulsive to Him. He prayed in the garden of Gethsemane, "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me, nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done." His sweat became as great drops of blood falling to the ground. It wasn't easy but Jesus did win the victory over sin. He was willing to suffer and die for you and me.

It was not so much what He did but Who He was. Many wicked men have died on a cross but Jesus was pure, holy, without sin. He died that we might have life and have it more abundantly.

The disciples didn't seem to understand until after Jesus came back to life. Then they knew what He had done for all mankind. Whosoever will may come to Him. Some day He will come again — not to suffer and die but to be King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The greatest that we can do is to live for Jesus, the one who suffered and died for us.

Brother Rudy Cover

"CHRISTIAN" POLITICS

We would like to look at two scriptures at this time. Luke 20:25, "And he (Jesus) said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's." Romans 13:1, (It would be well to read the entire chapter for yourself.) "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

During this time, there is much being said concerning the duties and privileges of American citizens. Many ministers stress the fact that Christians living in America are also citizens and share the duties of being citizens, such as voting and defending "good legislation." We realize that Christians differ on the extent of political involvement they should participate in. We feel only Christian love for those who disagree with our line of thinking.

We would like to look at this "issue" in just a little different way than is generally done. First of all, let us think of what the work of the Church is to be. Is it not to teach that Jesus Christ is the ONLY way to Heaven? Are we not to denounce and expose false teachings? Galatians 1:8, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." The Church, which is made up of born-again Christians, must be very narrow minded on this point. We cannot accept those who teach a false Christ, much less those who do not accept Jesus Christ at all in their theology. In line with this, we oppose Communism, because in reality it is a false religion, not primarily because it is a bad form of government.

Now let us contrast this with the Constitution of the United States and the government established thereby. The Constitution and our government guarantees freedom of religion. This means that it recognizes all religions as being on "equal ground." This is illustrated by the prayers that open Senate and House meetings. They are offered by Mormans, Jews, and any other religious persuasion that is represented. We are not saying that it is wrong to allow this in government. We are only trying to show the difference between secular politics and the Church.

As we stated before Communism is actually a religion. It is closely related to the "religion" of atheism, which in reality makes self "god." It would seem then that the Constitution guarantees the right of a communist government. However, we recognize that communism is also a political movement. While the Church opposes it on "religious grounds" we feel it is right and good if the

government opposes it on political grounds. But again we find a difference. The government may find it necessary to use force to oppose this evil. (Rom. 13:4) but the Church is never allowed to do so. (Rom. 12:14-21).

We feel there may be a real danger in "Christian" politics. We are aware of past history when "Christian" groups forced all those living in their territory to become "christians." We feel very few of those who were forced into the faith ever received Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and Lord. May it not be just as dangerous to try to force Christian ideals on the American public?

This of course, leaves some unanswered questions such as, "Is it better to leave government up to the godless who might destroy all Christian principles?" We feel this is no more difficult question, however, than why God allows godless tyrants to rule over nations. We feel that Romans 13 includes all nations on earth.

In summary, the government of the United States is to protect all the faiths represented in the nation. The Church is to adhere only to the gospel of Jesus Christ and to OPPOSE all other "faiths." We do not feel we could, as some preachers advise, die to save another faith, although we should be gladly willing to die for the faith of Jesus Christ, but not to take another life in the process, however.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, Pa. 17078

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPTEMBER

Sept. 7 — The Unjust Steward; Divorce. Luke 16:1-18.
Sept. 14 — The Rich Man and Lazarus. Luke 16:19-31.
Sept. 21 — Offenses; Forgiveness; Faith. Luke 17:1-10.
Sept. 28 — "Thy Faith Hath Made Thee Whole"; The Kingdom of God. Luke 17:11-21.

QUESTIONS:

(1) Why did the one who was cheated by his steward say that he had done wisely when he had discounted the debts of his lord's debtors? Luke 16:9.
(2) Do you think God would accept the unjust steward? Luke 16:2, 12, 13.
(3) The rich man died and was buried. What part of him was in hell and in torment?
(4) What is necessary to be forgiven? Luke 17:3-4.
(5) What do you think the leper, that returned to give thanks to God, received that the others didn't? Luke 17:19.

MARRIAGE

KEENEY - STUMP

Sister Sueann Keeney, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Norman Keeney, Jr., Red Lion, Pennsylvania and Bro. Jeffrey Stump, son of Bro. and Sis. Russel Stump, Myerstown, Pennsylvania were united in marriage May 31, 1980 at the home of the bride's parents by Elder David Ebling. The couple will make their home at R. 1, Felton, Pennsylvania 17322.

NEWS ITEMS

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

Change of Dates

Our Revival Meeting will be held September 7-14 by Bro. Allen Eberly.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation, the Lord willing, plans for their Harvest Meeting to be held August 24.

Come and enjoy this service with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhen, Cor.

PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation has planned a revival, August 31 through September 14. The evangelist will be Bro. Virgil Leatherman of Littlestown, Pennsylvania. Services will begin at 7:30 nightly with a Lovefeast on Saturday, September 13. Services begin at 10:00 A.M. and the Communion service at 7:30 P.M.

Our Harvest Meeting is set for September 28. All day services are planned.

You are cordially invited to all these meetings.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

GOSHEN, INDIANA

The Goshen Congregation will hold a Harvest Meeting on September 7, 1980. Bro. William Carpenter will be our speaker. Please come and worship with us.

Sister Carolyn Peffer, Cor.

QUINTER, KANSAS

The Lord willing, the Quinter, Kansas Dunkard Brethren Church plans to hold revival meetings from September 7 through September 14, 1980. Brother Dennis St. John of Stryker, Ohio will bring our messages.

We ask that your prayers and thoughts be with us in these services. We welcome one and all to attend and be filled with Spiritual Food.

Sister DeeAnn Root, Cor.

SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND

The Swallow Falls Congregation will be opening an extension to their Sunday School. It will be a Monday through Friday school, for kindergarden through twelfth grade. We are in need of a Principal. Compensation will be negotiable. If interested please contact Bro. Paul H. Mellott at (301) 387-4759. Pray for us while we undertake to do the Lord's will.

Sister Carolyn Mellott, Cor.

THANK YOU

We want to thank all who sent cards and letters for our 50th Anniversary. They were really appreciated and may God bless you for remembering us.

Newton and Elma Jamison

A MISSING KXY

Xvxn though my typxwritxr is an old midxl it works quitx wxll xxcxpt for onx of thx kxys. I havx wishxd at timxs that it workxd pxrfxctly. It is trux that thxrx arx forty-six kxys that function wxll xnough but just onx kxy not working makxs the diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs it sxxms to mx that a church or any othxr organization is somxwhat likx my typxwritxr - not all thx pxoplx working propxrly.

You may say to yoursxlf, "I am only onx. I won't makx or brxak thx church." But it doxs makx a diffxrxncx bxcausx an organization to bx xffxctivx nxxds thx activx participation of xvxry mxmbxr.

So, thx nxxt timx you think you arx only onx and that your xfforts arx not nxxdxd, rxmxmbxr my typxwritxr and say to yoursxlf, "I am a kxy mxmbxr in my church, and I am nxxdxd vxry much."

Selected from Young Companion
by Brother Allen Eberly

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1980

Memory Verse: 2 Kings 14:6
But the children of the murderers he slew not: according unto that which is written in the book of the law of Moses, wherein the Lord commanded, saying, The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, nor the children be put to death for the fathers; but every man shall be put to death for his own sin.

Mon. 1 - 2 Sam. 22:1-25
Tues. 2 - 2 Sam. 22:26-51
Wed. 3 - 2 Kings 14:1-20
Thurs. 4 - 2 Kings 20:1-21
Fri. 5 - 2 Chron. 15:1-19
Sat. 6 - 2 Chron. 32:24-33

Memory Verse: Job 12:22
He discovereth deep things out of darkness, and bringeth out to light the shadow of death.

Sun. 7 - Job 3:1-26
Mon. 8 - Job 5:1-27
Tues. 9 - Job 7:1-21
Wed. 10 - Job 10:1-22
Thurs. 11 - Job 12:1-25
Fri. 12 - Job 16:1-22
Sat. 13 - Job 18:1-21

Memory Verse: Psa. 9:13
Have mercy upon me, O Lord; consider my trouble which I suffer of them that hate me, thou that liftest me up from the gates of death:

Sun. 14 - Job 24:1-25
Mon. 15 - Job 27:1-25
Tues. 16 - Job 28:1-28
Wed. 17 - Job 30:1-31
Thurs. 18 - Job 34:1-37
Fri. 19 - Job 38:1-20
Sat. 20 - Job 38:21-41

Memory Verse: Psa. 13:3
Consider and hear me, O Lord my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;

Sun. 21 - Psa. 6:1-10
Mon. 22 - Psa. 7:1-17
Tues. 23 - Psa. 9:1-20
Wed. 24 - Psa. 13:1-6
Thurs. 25 - Psa. 18:1-24
Fri. 26 - Psa. 18:25-50
Sat. 27 - Psa. 22:1-15

Memory Verse: Psa. 23:4
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Sun. 28 - Psa. 22:16-31
Mon. 29 - Psa. 23:1-6
Tues. 30 - Psa. 33:1-22

Memory Verse: Psa. 18:3-6
I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies. The sorrows of death compassed me, and the floods of ungodly men made me afraid. The sorrows of hell compassed me about: the snares of death prevented me. In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.

Psa. 33:18 & 19
Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII SEPTEMBER 1, 1980 NO. 17

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

IF YOU KEEP HIM IN YOUR HEART

Do you feel that life for you is not worth living?
Does it seem that you can't make a worthy start?
Jesus knows just what to do,
Let Him work it out for you,
He will keep you if you keep Him in your heart.

Do you often find it hard to live for Jesus?
Do the sacred vows you make seem hard to keep?
Trust in Him to keep you true,
He has grace enough for you,
Just remember He is strong when you are weak.

Do you pray to God and read the holy Bible?
Do you seek to know His will in all you do?
When you wait on Him in pray'r
Heaven's best with you He'll share,
Ev'rything you'll ever need He has for you.

— C. S. Grogan

SECURITY

Men seek many forms of security in the very insecure world in which they live. Even our national leaders have little ability to cope with the constantly changing conditions in the world. They can not bring calm and order to a very desperate and unruly world. Those who have trusted in political and governmental programs have seen that method fail to produce security.

For others economics have not proven to be secure. Although they have invested in "securities" they have often been unprofitable. Inflation and mismanagement have made once-solid industries, insecure. The financial world is as insecure as the political world.

The world of pleasure, sport and lust is even more insecure. It has never been secure for it has ever been under the censure of God. From the earliest history of mankind God has dealt with man's folly of following after the flesh rather than His will. He dealt very dramatically with Noah's generation because of their lack of righteousness. Although God has not thus far dealt so dramatically with mankind's pursuit of fleshly pleasure since, there is a coming judgment that will be even more severe. Pleasure is insecure not only in respect to its future recompense but also in the natural life. Pleasure is short-lived for it is shallow. What is so much fun for a short time will cease to entertain unless some greater sensuality can be added to it. Often violence and lewdness become a part of sports and pleasure to insure a good time. The old lusts will no longer bring pleasure. The physical drain of all these activities will soon harm the body and the mind. Pleasures prove insecure.

THE BIBLE MONITOR SEPTEMBER 1, 1980

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With everything in the world that men hold to failing them, what is left that is secure? The thing that most scorn and belittle is the very thing that they most need. They can not find security in the perishable and fleeting things of the world but they can find it in a continuous, right relationship with God through Jesus Christ. The thought of God, Christianity, Church and righteousness is so far from their insecure minds because they have trusted only in themselves, their talents and the world's allurements.

They associate the things of God with weakness rather than with strength. They look at their lifestyle often full of pleasure and the status symbols of the world as being secure enough, yet one misjudgment, one bad investment, one accident or illness will often bring their supposedly secure world crashing down around them. The security of God's realm is in the fact that in the midst of these various misfortunes He will prove Himself well able to secure the one who will trust Him.

Because God is on the Throne of Heaven and is Eternal, He is secure and able to provide security for His followers. Man's greatest efforts turn out for nought because he lacks ability and knowledge. There is no lack with God. He is all-knowing and all powerful. He knows the beginning from the end and He is able to do what needs to be done. There are no programs with Him as with the government that begin with fanfare and high hopes but end in disrespect and failure.

Insecurity even effects Christians sometimes. Because of the surrounding world's great burden of insecurity, the Christian may be tainted with its fears and alarms. He will begin to depend upon the government or finances or even pleasures to help him through this life rather than his Heavenly Father. They forget that He has promised to never leave nor forsake them. They forget the testimony of David that throughout his long life he had never seen God's seed begging bread. When conditions are the harshest, they can find their greatest security through their total, faithful dependence upon Him.

Some in the religious world have been so affected by the insecurity around them that they have over reacted in the opposite way. Their insecurity has prompted them to devise the so-called doctrine of eternal security. Knowing their lives did not measure up to God's standard they chose rather to believe that all would be well with them, if they had believed at some time upon Him. They could not feel secure in their relationship with Him so they have taken His perogative of declaring themselves safe and secure. While God will go a long way with a person who attempts to follow, however, faltering, He does not give to man the right of self-commendation and promotion into the ranks of Heaven. This kind

of security is like the security to be found in the plans, finances and objects of this world. It may fail in this life and certainly will before the judgment bar of God.

Security is a real problem in an insecure world. Upon whom or what are you depending for security? Depend on God, for there in your faithful obedience and service you will find true security.

1980 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from August 15, 1980 Issue

Second Speaker: Elder James Kegerreis. The Fountain of Life. Zech. 13:1.

God created man from the dust of the earth. God made man a living soul by breathing the breath of life into him. We have a natural life and a spiritual life. The natural body came from the dust and will return to the dust but the spiritual life is eternal. The Spirit leads us in our spiritual activities of this life.

The Old Testament speaks of a future day "In that day..." when the Christ would come. I John 3:8-9. Rom. 7:19-20.

Isaiah 53 gives a prophetic picture of Jesus. Verse 10 shows Jesus as a suffering servant. He came to die for the sins of the world. After His ascension His disciples went forth into the whole world. His work was for the hearts and souls of mankind. There was no physical comeliness about Him in His suffering but this was the necessary price to redeem us from our sins.

We need, today, to come to that fountain filled with blood. That is our only way to enter the pearly gates. We must come in faith, repentance and obedience.

Closing: Elder Paul Blocher.

We have been reminded that we are a peculiar people — a special people. There are many ways in which we are known as a peculiar people. We know the value of water as a cleansing agent. The greatest cleansing agent is the blood of Jesus which cleanses from sin. This is in real need in this world. Man could not save himself, but the love of God provided for his need.

Sunday Evening

Moderator: Elder Edward Johnson.

Chorister: Bro. Dale Blocher.

Opening: Elder William Carpenter. Psalms 90.

God is from everlasting to everlasting. He is God. He will not be mocked. Time is only temporary. "Teach me to number our days." What we do for ourselves in this world will pass away. What we do for God will last.

First Speaker: Elder Joseph Flora. The Open Door. I Cor. 16:9.

May the words of my mouth, the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord. God knows all about each one, even the thoughts and intents of the heart. God has treasure for each one here. He shall feed His flock like a shepherd, He shall gather the lambs in His arms and carry them in His bosom.

There was a great opportunity before Paul to spread the Gospel. The same opportunity exists for each of us. There is a door of opportunity that has been opened in our day. God has a time and a way of opening doors when He sees fit and when He sees the need. Christian Education is that door which has been opened in our day. This Conference has brought before us various aspects of the Word of God. We have been instructed in many areas of life.

Sometimes we are not aware of a need. We are often blind to needs such as Christian education. The reason for this need is that America has forgotten God. If that were not so, the need would not exist today.

The devil has a way of making changes slowly, if he made them all at once we would become alarmed. We are lulled asleep when the changes are made gradually. What made America such a great nation? There are many parallels between the history of America and the history of Israel in the Old Testament. They were great when they worshipped and served God and the opposite happened when they didn't.

Our historical documents contain the name of God. The Mayflower Pact signed in 1620 was for establishment of the Christian faith. The Quakers established Pennsylvania as a haven for religious freedom. Public education began among a Bible-believing, Bible-reading people. The first schoolhouses were often used as Churchhouses in frontier areas. The first teachers were often ministers and the first textbooks were the Bible.

By looking back we can often get a clearer picture of where we are now. The philosophy of the schools is far different than in the past. Every school has a philosophy, so what it has to present will be presented as the Truth. The philosophy of the public schools is self. Serving self instead of God is today's philosophy. This is humanism. They leave God out. Instead of truth they present lies.

The Bible is truth. Any other philosophy is a lie. How much Bible do you think is being taught in the public schools today? The textbooks of today do not extol the moral basis that the nation was built on.

The Christian school is an education in the Truth. The Word of God is quick and powerful. Paul warned about being spoiled by philosophy and deception. If we could see our young people being pushed over a precipice, we all would do our utmost to save them.

Wake up! The filthiness in the schools rubs off on our children. Those educated in the public schools some years ago could not believe the present conditions. There will be no improvement in the coming years.

What is our most precious possession? Your children and grandchildren. What does the devil want most from you besides your own soul? Your children and grandchildren.

God has given us institutions for the furtherance of His Word. He established first the Home, then the Church. Deut. 6:4-12. These laws have never been repealed. America has become full and affluent. Americans have forfeited their responsibilities to the government. It is time for us to take back our God-given responsibilities and privileges. Show me any passage of scripture that tells you to give up your responsibilities and privileges of your child's education to the government. The Bible says to bring them up in the fear and admonition of the Lord. Is that the way we are doing it? We like to take the easy way out. Let some one else take the responsibility.

You may say that it costs a lot of money and makes a lot of problems with the government. Is it worth it? The easy way is to continue in the way we have been going. Would the great men of the Bible have been great if they had taken the easy way out? Job, Moses, Daniel and many others could have taken the easy way out but stood for God instead.

The door is open in America for Christian education. Will we enter that open door?

To be continued.

COME UNTO ME

Part 1

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30.

Christ has given the invitation, but it's not effective until it is accepted. When someone tells you about Christ, just listening is not enough. Jesus said, "Come... and I will give you rest." This requires some action on your part; you must leave whatever you have now and come to Jesus for what He can give you — rest for your soul. The entire plan of salvation becomes effective only through faith — that moment when you believe in Him with all your heart.

Christ's invitation will create a hunger in your heart if you will allow it to, a hunger for fellowship with Him. Life at its best has many heartaches, so we need the rest which Christ alone can provide. We need close fellowship with Him. We need His help so we can have a worthwhile life, but we especially need fellowship with Him for our soul's sake. When His invitation comes to us, it also is an invitation to fellowship with Him.

His invitation is given to those who labor and are heavy laden. Labor is work or a struggle. When you are a sinner, life is a struggle. There is much heartache and disappointment which you must bear all alone. Sin is a burden which weights you down and causes you to have other distressing burdens. With Jesus, there is rest and someone to help us. The burdens we have will be His if we will rest in Him.

Christ's yoke indicates work, but it also means a team pulling together. A team cannot go separate ways or fight with each other, but must pull together to move the load, or nothing will ever get done. A team is no longer a team when it does not function as a single unit. We need to become one with Christ and seek to do His will and work with Him without resisting His commands.

There is much to learn about Christ and His will for your life. He has promised us rest, but that doesn't mean we can sit on the stool-of-do-nothing. Rest means being undisturbed and at peace. There is quietness and trust within the heart of a person at rest in the Lord. There is a meek and gentle spirit within, not a crude, rude, harsh, unloving spirit. Rest or turmoil — which do you have?

Jesus said, "Ye shall find rest unto your souls," if you come to Him. He didn't say maybe you'll find rest or maybe you'll find enough strength to get by. He said, "Ye shall", if you will come when He calls you. Rest will not come because you have learned to meditate or through some other philsosphy. It is a gift to you from Christ when you accept His salvation.

"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." Isa. 55:1. If your soul is hungry and thirsty, there is food and water already provided. There is no price tag on salvation because Jesus already paid the price of our redemption. If we come to Him, we can receive salvation free of charge. If money were needed to buy it, many would be left out.

"Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage." Matt. 22:4. If someone fixes you a meal with the best of food and lots of it, it does you no good until you eat it. God has already provided everything for our salvation, but it does you no good until you

come and partake of it. Salvation is through Christ, God's gift of love to us. He couldn't have provided a better way.

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Rev. 3:20. Jesus will come in if we will open our heart's door to Him. He will not force His way in, but will wait until He is welcome. If you want Christ in your life, He will be there to share with you in every way. Any invitation requires an answer — acceptance or refusal. Jesus has already given His invitation. Now the rest is up to you.

"For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him." Rom. 10:12. Whether you are black, white, red, yellow or somewhere in between, Jesus loves you and He died for you. Your race or color does not determine whether you can receive salvation or not, but your acceptance or rejection of Christ does. Salvation and the blessings which follow are available to all who will call on the Lord. Salvation is complete for all who will receive it. Will you come?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

YO-YO, DUNE-BUGGY, FANNY AND TIGER

A year ago last fall our mother cat had her baby kittens in the rock pile beside the house-trailer. The mother disappeared when they were about a week old. The kittens were not "regular" babies so we decided to bottle feed them.

We would hold them on their backs, paws in the air, and give them a baby bottle at feeding time. They soon slept through the night and were good.

Each of our "babies" had their own appetities and personalities and I would like to tell you about each of them. Yo-Yo, thus named because when he grew older he would climb up on our back, then down, and up again. Yo-Yo and Fanny (Yo-Yo and Fanny both have about an inch of tail. Fanny got her name because when you feel her stub it is in the shape of a fan) were very much alike in their personalities. They were neither hard nor easy to feed, but normal and would take their milk as good kittens should.

Dune-Buggy (has no tail and acquired her name because of her appearance) was very hard to feed. I had to force feed her and give her more time, therefore I became quite attached to her.

Tiger was just like his name. He was very easy to feed and in no time at all he was finished. Tiger was the only one with a tail.

In thinking over my kitty nursery and their reaction to their milk I have had to compare it to people. We know that as babes in Christ we should desire the sincere milk of the Word. If we are like Dune-

Buggy our desire is there but we need help in getting the nourishment and we must have it to stay alive. Loving hands have to force-feed and give much help in order for that babe to grow. If we are like Tiger we eagerly go after our "milk" and are soon finished and begin growing. If we are like Yo-Yo and Fanny we will not have to be forced, we'll take our food normally and thereby grow.

Over the brotherhood we hear of those coming to the Lord. Many are young in years. When we hear of new Christians, we are all happy and rejoice.

Does everything stop after the tears are dried at the riverbank? Or do we take this as a challenge to help the new ones in Christ to grow?

Each of the new ones has their own personality, their own appetite and their own capability to digest. Although different in these ways, spiritually they all need to eat and grow.

The kittens all received the same food, the same love — but in the approach and measure of patience, it had to be individualized. The end result was they all grew up and took their place at Torreon.

Each of us have different needs, cares and problems. We have a loving Maker (holder) who will gently fulfill our needs. As Christians, let each of us take it upon ourselves to do what we can to encourage, feed and help the new Christians to grow that they may take their place in the Lord's fields.

Sister Mildren Skiles
Box 188, Cuba, New Mexico

A MODEL HOME

We think of a model as a copy or representation of an existing or planned object, a standard of excellence to be imitated.

I had the pleasure of being in a home that was so different from most homes that I know, that I cannot forget it. This place was a pleasant place, the very atmosphere was love. You would feel like staying there always. It was a large family. They had company. One boy came in quietly, sat by his mother, took her by the hand, not a word from him. His look to her sounded like, "I love you mother!" "Please" and "thank you" were words most often heard. Every child had an interest in the home, not a chair or book out of place. Strangers were like a part of the family. The Church and Bible teachings were the center of this model home.

Home, what a hallowed name! How full of enchantment and how dear to the heart! Home is the magic circle within which the weary spirit finds refuge. It is the sacred asylum to which the care worn heart retreats to find rest from the toils of life.

Ask the lone wanderer as he plods his tedious way, beat with the weight of age and the white of years, ask him what is home? He will tell you "it is a green spot in memory, an oasis in the desert; a center about which the fondest recollections of his grief-oppressed heart cling with all the tenacity of youth's first love. It was once a happy reality, but now it rests as only an image of the mind.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Children should be taught to work, be truthful, say grace at mealtime and take part in the daily devotions. Where the Bible is taught and obeyed you will find a Model Home. "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them, And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." Gen. 1:27-28.

Home, God's first institution for the preservation of the human race and the enjoyment of its inhabitants. Some one has said that Mother, Home and Heaven are the sweetest words in the English language. Home is the central word. Is it not true, that much of man's energy and success, as well as happiness, depends upon the character of his home? The thought of a dear wife shortens the distance of a journey, and alleviates the harrassing of business. It is a reserve power to fall back upon. Home and Friends! how dear they are to all of us!

Remember, the Church is our earthly home. We are one Family in Christ Jesus. It is a Model Home. God the Father and ruler of the universe hath given all power to His Son Jesus for our example and pattern for our every need. And He has promised us a Home in Heaven if we prove faithful. O! how beautiful the thought that we will see our loved ones again! It is beyond description. "... Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." I Cor. 2:9. Are You Ready?

Brother L. A. Shumake

Accuston yourself to submit on every occasion to a small present evil, to obtain a greater distant good. This will give decision, tone, and energy to the mind, which, thus disciplined, will often reap victory from defeat, and honor from repulse.

— Colton.

OUR LORD'S RETURN

Mark 13:24-37

"But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is." Mark 13:32-33.

Watchful servants of Christ, love to read once more the further promises of Christ to return. A very positive, heart-warming portion is in John 14:2-3, "In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

The Apostle Paul, speaking by the Word of the Lord, gives us more details in I Thess. 4:13-18. A high point of Rapture is reached in verses 16-18, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

With this happy prospect before us, we look again at the Master's parable in Mark 13:34, "For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch." Each word is precious. Jesus who was "Son of God" chooses to use the humbler title "Son of Man" in referring to Himself. He says He is like a man making ready for a "far journey." His words grip the mind. How far indeed did He go when He ascended in a glory cloud before the eyes of His astonished disciples? Some six or seven miles above the earth we gazed off into the infinite space about us. Into this blue vault of Heaven our Lord ascended on a straight course to the Father. His words are a love portion to every believing heart. John 20:17, "... I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God."

"Who left His house." The only house Jesus had here was in the hearts of those who loved and followed Him. Those precious, favored souls who watch Him ascend were His own. These are some of those of whom Jesus said, (Matt. 16:18) "I will build my Church." Peter declares in I Pet. 2:5, "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house..." Paul uses the same figure of speech, declaring that Christians "Are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone. In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto

an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." Eph. 2:20-22.

"And gave authority to His servants." Quite evidently this authority is given to all servants. All have the authority from Jesus to petition God in Jesus' Name. "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." John 16:24. "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it." John 14:13-14. "And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us." I John 5:14.

Authority brings responsibility in its use. The one who uses a signed check, must also sign his name, and be prepared to give an account in the future.

Prayer is a very personal and responsible privilege as we approach our Father's throne with the Name of Jesus. Our best prayers may be tinged with self and selfish desires. It is to the glory of Christ that we are to make prayer to God. But it seems our humanness of body, still under sentence of death, presents a problem for our faltering lips. The incompleteness of our best efforts in our service to Christ is rebuked at the Holy Throne of God. "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." Rom. 8:26-27.

"And to every man his work." It is here our Lord indeed shows Himself a Master. He knows the nature of the work, the skill required, the necessary strength needed to finish the task. He distributes the tasks, "... To every man according to his ability." Matt. 25:15. This ability lies first in our being placed by God in His Spiritual body. Then in the Spiritual gifts divided by the Holy Spirit to each one. (I Cor. 12:18-21). All are included here. None are indeed too lowly to be missed. Humble toil becomes sanctified action for God. A little child could give a cup of water to a disciple for Jesus' sake. One brother witnessed he had "shoveled" all his life, caring for the needs of the family in this way. A beloved sister in the Lord said that she felt her assignment was to wash dishes. Let no one of Christ be afraid to soil and callous his hands. The Apostle Paul did not hesitate to toil as need required. "For the gifts and callings of God are without repentance." Rom. 11:29.

"And He commanded the porter to watch." This porter is mentioned again by Jesus in John 10:2-3, "But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them

out." This faithful porter is both watchman and door-keeper. It is a good description of the Holy Spirit's control in the body of Christ. His is the mystic power of the Father to draw souls to Christ. Jesus said, "No man can come to me, except the Father... draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:44. Jesus is speaking to us as He did to Nicodemus, "Marvel not that I said unto thee: Ye must be born again: The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whether it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." John 3:7-8.

Ah! dear aged Brother and Sister in Christ; you, whose hair has grown grey in His service. Let your heart speak of your first decision for Christ. Were you not indeed wooed and won with true words and many kind influences in your former days? And when you opened your heart's door to Jesus, was it not by this same Holy Spirit gate-keeper? Was not also John 14:23 fulfilled in your life, "If a man love me, he will keep my words; and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."? Life's greatest miracle was yours.

"Fullness of joy and depths of bliss, unseen, unfathomed, unconceived." The Holy Spirit is also the ever watchful porter of the house of He who "took a far journey," and promised to return. No human porter could ever do the work of this faithful watchman.

Through the many long centuries, the Holy Spirit of God has been drawing men and women, boys and girls to Christ. Often unknown to man, but well known to God, a line of faithful souls has, by the Holy Spirit, brought the Words of Christ down to our day. Well meaning writers of the history of the Christian Church can not and do not tell a full history of the Holy Spirit's workings. Though unseen as the wind, we praise the Lord. He still "abides" and watches over those He has "drawn" to Jesus. His Blessed Invitation to "come" is ours to give to the "needy" of the earth. In Luke 14:12-24, we may well notice those whom Jesus named as being heavy on His heart of love. The poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, (mentioned twice), also those in the highways and hedges" of life. James 1:27, by the Holy Spirit adds the care of the "fatherless" and the "widows in their affliction" to this list. In doing so the Christian must avoid the sin "spots" of the world, by keeping his/her love life centered on Christ. As the Holy Spirit started this new life from above in us by the Word of God, even so would He end it at this life's end, for us. Jesus said, "... the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." John 6:63. Again in Matt. 24:35, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

Your Brother in Christ,
James D. Cover

GOD CALLS FOR US TO DO JUSTICE

In this evil day many are suffering because of injustice. True Christians do not place unjust hardships upon others. Justice can only exist in the lives of those who practice it in their living. If we have become victims and practice injustice, we cannot be an example of justice. Christians respect the laws of our land that are for our protection and based upon the Bible. By practicing injustice, we become a hindrance to the growth of God's Kingdom.

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God." Micah 6:8. To do justice is a response to God's call. What we need is truth and righteousness then we will always oppose injustice. No religious exercise can please the Lord unless it is based upon righteousness and justice. Justice is righteousness and injustice, unrighteousness. Today much injustice is taking place through professing Christians.

It is sad to think how often people are quick to blame and pass judgment on others unjustly because of untrue reports. "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much." Luke 16:10. How true God's Word is, but step after step in different directions people are framing their own qualifications. Will we be faithful and true to God's call?

The Apostle Paul says we are to be obedient to the higher powers. We can not be a Christian light and be an example of injustice. "I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me." John 5:30.

Justice is a matter of great importance and highly recommended in the life of the true Christian. We need to love mercy, be true, honest and fair in all our dealings with all and to abide by the Golden Rule. "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith for the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness." Rom. 1:17-18. By standing for truth and righteousness we are oppressed by those who seemingly cannot see the Way of Truth.

It is a sad condition when religious leaders are overcome by untrue reports and spread them thereby becoming stumbling-blocks to others. The rising generation will never see the light of the Gospel through the works of darkness. We are commanded not to fellowship the unfruitful works of darkness but rather to reprove them. To please the Lord, our actions must be based upon justice. We cannot walk with the great evils of the world and condemn them. Today many are enjoying the ways of sin and folly not

realizing as a man sows so shall he reap.

Many are placing unjust hardships upon others and do not seem to realize what the end will be. As we look in the Gospel of Christ, we must conclude it is far better to suffer wrong than to do injustice to anyone. Are we true and faithful? Does our life tell for Jesus? Light will not commune with darkness. All must appear at the judgment seat of Christ where the judgment will be just. The true and faithful will be permitted to enter the place of eternal justice. Are we on the straight and narrow way that leads to glory? Christ, our Saviour rebuked the unrighteous. Have we made Him our pattern so we may be with Him in an eternal place of peace and justice?

Brother J. F. Marks
R.D. 3 Box 509
York, Pa. 17402

NEWS ITEMS

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Lord willing, the Englewood Congregation plans to have their Fall Harvest Meeting on September 7, 1980. Bro. Edward Johnson has consented to bring us the message from God's Holy Word. Services start at 2:00 p.m. Come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

WEST FULTON, OHIO

The West Fulton Congregation is looking forward to Revival Meetings from September 21 to October 5. The Lord willing, Bro. Jack Snyder of Stevens, Pennsylvania will be our evangelist. We plan to have our Harvest Meeting at the start of these meetings on September 21.

We urge your prayerful support of these services and invite your attendance. Come and fellowship with us.

Sister Elaine Leatherman, Cor.

WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND

The Lord willing, beginning Sunday, September 28, 1980, the Walnut Grove Congregation is anticipating a Revival Meeting with Elder Eugene Kauffman of Harrisonburg, Virginia. This series of efforts will close with the annual all-day Communion Services the first Sunday of October.

All are welcome to come and enjoy this time of Spiritual refreshment.

Sister Betty Shelly, Cor.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII SEPTEMBER 15, 1980 NO. 18

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

O FOR A CLOSER WALK WITH GOD

O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heav'nly frame,
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!

Where is the blessedness I knew
When first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul refreshing view
Of Jesus and His word?

The dearest idol I have known
Whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from Thy throne,
And worship only Thee.

So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.

- William Cowper

HEZEKIAH'S REVIVAL

Hezekiah is best remembered for the fifteen year extension to his life. But his life had a greater importance than this one miraculous event. Read of Hezekiah's life and reign in II Chronicles 29-32. There you will read of the part Hezekiah played in a great revival among God's people. Considering the low morality of today and the evident need of revival in our land, it is beneficial to consider the revival in Hezekiah's time.

At the beginning of his reign he urged the Priests and Levites to clean and repair the Temple which had fallen into disrepair and had become filthy from disuse and misuse. Revivals need leaders like Hezekiah but a leader can not do everything. Hezekiah could not have accomplished his purpose without the help of those who physically cleaned the Temple as well as those who performed the spiritual services. God must be the ultimate leader of any undertaking of the Church.

Revival is a regaining of beliefs and blessings that have been lost. The Jews, like Christians today, although the recipients of many blessings from God, oft times forsook Him. Consequently, they lost the blessings. In His mercy, God would in due time bring a revival. Under faithful leaders, the Jews would again serve God and enjoy His blessings.

Although our nation as a whole stands in need of a revival, it can not be led by politicians or the government. Revival must begin in the Church. Hezekiah sent the Levites to clean out the filthiness in the Temple. "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" I Pet. 4:17. Until the

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Church is willing to get back to New Testament doctrines and practices, there is no hope for revival in the land. When a variant gospel goes out that ignores the teachings of simplicity and submissiveness, when the truth of God's Word is denied or ignored, there will be little in the Church that will inspire the population in general to live moral lives. Without Jesus Christ and His saving Gospel there can be no revival, no matter how well-intentioned men may be about reviving the nation's morals.

Revival is not an institutional but a personal affair. Revival must touch the hearts and lives of individuals. There must be a cleaning out of sin in each life. There may be a need to restore some things as well, just as the Levites replaced the vessels that Abaz had discarded. The prayer covering, modest attire and other doctrines and practices of the Church must be restored by individual members. Individuals need to get right with God, with the Church and with each other.

After the house had been cleansed, worship services were reinstituted. The various rituals of Moses' Law were again practiced. The revived soul has a desire to worship the God who has been merciful to him. This is an expression of love toward the soul's Saviour and those who have likewise been recipients of God's mercy. Christianity is not individualistic but a group or body, joining together in praise and service.

After the re-establishment of worship in the Temple, Hezekiah sent messengers to invite the scattered Jews to a Passover, which had fallen into disregard and disuse. Hezekiah called his people to re-establish this service, that not only looked back to their national deliverance from Egypt but looked forward prophetically to Christ. The ordinances of the Church have slipped away in many places. They need to be re-established. These ordinances picture in a visible way, spiritual lessons that aid Christians in their lives. "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip." Heb. 2:1. These ordinances include the Lovefeast - Feetwashing, the Lord's Supper and Communion; baptism by trine immersion for the remission of sins; the holy kiss and the anointing. These ordinances are a necessary part of the Church's ministry. If they are allowed to slip away that ministry will be incomplete and the revival will have been in vain.

With the revival of the religious and moral life of the Jews came a new power — the power of God. When Sennacherib invaded their land, he was sorely defeated by God's power. The Christian will have enemies within and without to contend with, but by the power of God he will be able to overcome them.

Do not expect a revival in the nation until there is a revival in the Church. Do not expect a revival within the Church until there is a revival within you. Have you been revived?

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

FISHING FOR MONEY!

Matt. 17:24-27

Peter went fishing one time and a very strange thing happened. A tax-collector had come to Peter and asked, "Doesn't your Master pay taxes?" Peter, always quick to answer, said, "Yes."

I don't suppose Peter had ever seen Jesus pay taxes. Jesus didn't have any property. He didn't own a house or a camel or a donkey or anything. One time Jesus said, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head." Jesus was the poorest of men and yet He had created the earth and all that we see around us. John says, "He was in the world and the world was made by Him, and the world received Him not." Why did Peter say that Jesus paid taxes? Maybe Peter was a little embarassed and maybe a little ashamed of Jesus. Maybe he answered before he thought.

Jesus was in a house. It could have been Peter's or He may have been just visiting someone. Anyway, Peter went in the house and Jesus said to Peter, "What do you think, Peter? of whom do the kings of the earth take taxes; of their own children or of strangers?" Peter said unto Him, "Strangers." Jesus said, "Then are the children free."

I suppose this was the temple tax that everyone was to pay. It was called "an atonement for the soul." Jesus was the King of the temple and He had never sinned. If anyone was to be free from tax, Jesus certainly was. Nevertheless, Jesus didn't want to offend anyone and He especially didn't want Peter to get in trouble. I don't think Peter had any money with him or Jesus either. Jesus hadn't been with Peter when he was asked about paying taxes, but Jesus knew what the tax-collector said to Peter and He knew what Peter answered. Jesus knows what you and I say, too. He even knows what we think. So Jesus told Peter what to do. He said, "Go down to the sea and cast a hook, and take the first fish you catch. When you open its mouth you will find a piece of money. Take it and give to the tax collectors for me and thee."

Do you think Peter did what Jesus told him? I'm sure he did. Do you think Peter caught a fish and when he opened the fish's mouth, he found a piece of money in it? I know he did. How did Jesus know that the first fish Peter caught would have a piece of money in it's mouth? Jesus knows everything. He knows the number of hairs on your head. There isn't a sparrow that falls to the earth but what Jesus knows.

Jesus is the greatest person who ever lived in this world. He is your best friend. He died on that old rugged cross for you and me. You'll never be sorry to live for Jesus. He will bless you abundantly in everything you do for Him.

Brother Rudy Cover

1980 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from September 1, 1980 Issue

Second Speaker: Bro. Kenneth Wolfe. The Young People's Sermon. Members of the Body. I Cor. 12:12-31.

As Bible readers we recognize King David as a man after God's own heart. He wrote (Ps. 139:14) "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." He recognized that God did a marvelous work in the creation and composition of the human body, making it one body with many parts which work together. This is a picture of the Christian's relationship to Christ and to each other. The young people are a part of the Body of Christ yet made up of individual members. Just as all parts of the body must work together so must all in the Church work together. As members of the body each should have a desire to know the Truth and have an understanding of what it means to be a member. Then you must be an efficient member, who is busy for Christ.

What must each do to be an efficient member of the body. Because of apostacy in the last times, which can be almost anything or organization, the members have to know what these conditions are and how they can affect the Church. There is the danger that the Church may become a social organization lacking the Holy Spirit and prayer. Because of the modern view of Christianity which is popular, we must be busy in the true way. The young people have a great opportunity because of their strength and zeal. The old folks are needed for their counsel and wisdom and dependability. But now you need to know as members the truth of the Bible and the forces working against it.

The work of each one in the Church is important no matter how lowly a job it is. Each part is needed to carry out the work. So each one must be an efficient member whatever his task. What is needed to be efficient?

First we need a personality that is consecrated. We all have a personality which is expressed by physical and mental activities. Consecrated activities are needed to serve God. We must be born again then set aside our lives. Must be alive and raised up through Jesus Christ. Must set affections on things above, then have activities accordingly. Our behavior must reflect the fact of God's lordship over us.

Second — crucified carnality. Crucified means to put to death. We have to die to the worldly things. Fornication is one of the worldly things that is so common today. It should not be among Christians. Immodesty in attire is another snare of the world today. We must mortify these things or they will get us. Inordinate affection and evil concupascience (homosexuality) are other

carnalities that are out of order. We must be free of these things. We must serve Him with all of our heart or we will be guilty of spiritual adultery. We must put all these things to death in our lives.

Third — put on Christ. There are many things that we need to put off but we need also to put on the new man. Must put on Christ and the mind of Christ. We must be His reflection in this present world. The spiritual body must be sustained by Jesus Christ. We must grow and mature in Christ. We must get into the Word and feed on it to grow. We must have compassion to be like Jesus.

Fourth — Peace lovers. There must be peace of God reigning within the heart, which is beyond human understanding. There must be peace among the members of the body. Christians can have peace in the midst of trouble.

Fifth — Truth. Jesus is the Truth. The Word is truth. The Word must dwell in us richly. He wants us to do His will from the heart. We must follow the Word even in the midst of ridicule. Buy the truth but don't sell it. Keep the Truth in mind at all times.

Sixth — Concern for souls of others. God was concerned for our souls. Jesus was concerned for our souls, we must in turn be concerned for other souls. We must work for Jesus by visibily showing Him through our lives. This kind of living speaks of peace within yourself and holds out the hope of peace to the lost.

These are all needful things to be an efficient member. Do you think you have attained all these? The Apostle Paul didn't feel he had. He realized the imperfection of mankind. It is needful to follow after Christ to have these things and to become the member you should be. To follow after means to lay hold on. He first got ahold of us now we must get ahold of Him. There is an effort demanded. It is a high calling.

Closing: Elder Dale Jamison.

Some are going to fall by the wayside because they are not living for the Saviour.

Monday Morning Worship

Moderator: Elder Edward Johnson.

Speaker: Elder Harley Flory.

It is not what we do during this Conference that is going to count but it is what we allow the Lord to do through us. Bro. Hostetler used to say that the torch of Jesus Christ is lit in the Church service but it does its burning in the highways and shops. A warning has gone forth concerning the shortness of the time and the work yet to be done from this Conference.

We have the ordinances, principles, doctrines and the plan of salvation but we need application of these things. Do we as a people have a lack of concern for lost souls?

Matt. 9:35-38. We have a great responsibility to one another. There is a need of compassion as Jesus demonstrated it. May we pray for the Lord to send the needed workers into the harvest including ourselves.

To be continued.

"AND ALSO TO THE GENTILE"

Come Unto Me - Part 2

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." Rom. 1:16.

Jesus said, "Come unto me." He gave the initial invitation. The responsibility of telling the world about Him was given to us, His followers. There are two groups of people to be told, the Jews and the Gentiles. Regardless of what color you are, if you aren't Jewish, you're Gentile. Whichever you are, salvation is available to you. You are familiar with God's work among white Gentiles. Let's think together now about another Gentile group, the Navajo people, and what it means to invite them to Christ.

Torreon Mission is in New Mexico. Several members of the Pleasant Ridge Congregation (where I attend) have served as missionaries at Torreon, as Bible school teachers, evangelists, families on staff, volunteers. They have helped to give the invitation to the Navajos. Some have accepted it and come to Christ; some have fallen by the wayside, but others have remained faithful. To help you better understand the agonies and joys of this ministry, following are some personal experiences as related to me.

Sis. Martha (Throne) Heer lived with her parents at Torreon. She was frightened when the time came to begin school there among strangers, but she was well-received. She was a freshman, a difficult age to make new friends, but once adjustments were made, she liked the school there better than the one she had attended in Ohio.

There were times of joy, like the singing on the routes when the Navajos were picked up for services. "There'll Be No Dark Valley" was a favorite song then. Another joy was when the young people from the Quinter, Kansas Methodist Church came and helped build an outdoor worship area. A dedication service was held in it the day before they returned home. Support from home, the visitors — especially at holiday times, a Communion service held in Skiles' basement are all cherished memories.

Sis. Martha then related the story of Sadie, age ten months, who lived with Thrones briefly. When she came, she had been strapped to her cradleboard for days with severe diarrhea. Everything had to be burned. She only weighed ten pounds, and her cry was so weak that she sounded like a little lamb. Sadie had to be fed tiny amounts frequently until her body would accept food. She gained rapidly. Then came the heartbreaking moment when her alcoholic mother came to get her. Sis. Martha said, "You can't let her take Sadie!" and then went to her room to cry her heart out.

Sad? Certainly! But worth it? Yes! Jesus said, "And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward." Matt. 10:42. The cup of cold water has already been given to Sadie; now she needs Jesus in her heart. Not much is known about her present life, but God knows. Will you ask Him to save her soul as He did her life — before it's too late?

Sis. Lucille Throne told about little Samuel who died on his cradleboard. His mother brought him in, washed and dressed his body for burial. The preparation for burial as well as the actual burial is all taken care of by the family. No one ever forgets the haunting sound of the dirt clods hitting the wooden coffin as the grave is filled.

Violet, age three, was picked up on the route in such a condition that she was unfit to attend services. Her mother, an alcoholic, had made no attempt to clean Violet up. She was filthy and her hair full of lice. Sis. Lucille bathed her and put clean clothes on her. Violet was as happy as could be about being bathed; she didn't resist being cleansed. Being clean for public worship is important, but we also need to be clean inside. God said, "For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." I Sam. 16:7b. Does He see a clean heart in you?

Grandma (Juanita) Trujillo used to come to visit Sis. Lucille. They couldn't talk much with each other except a few words like coffee, sugar or bread, but she'd stay an hour or more, just sitting at the table. Grandma had said at various times that she wanted to be "stood in the water," her expression for baptism, but no one was sure she understood the plan of salvation. A few weeks before she died, she received Christian baptism.

Bro. Dennis St. John was the evangelist at Torreon in December, 1978. It was at this time that Grandma responded to the invitation and was baptized. (She used both Toledo and Trujillo as her last name.) A seed of love which drew her to Christ was no doubt planted during the times she spent in silent fellowship with Sis. Lucille. You may think that the little things you do for others don't

matter, but you can't know for sure. Just do what you can, give of your time and your love to someone, and leave the results with the Lord.

To be continued
Sister Eileen Broadwater

WHAT DOES GOD THINK . . .?

When after He created man in His own image and pronounced His creation good, then He has to continuously look down on this earth and see people filthy drunk, acting like wild animals.

When He sees elderly people being abused by their own children and by operators of rest homes.

When He sees little children being beaten, tortured and disabled by fathers and mothers, to whom God entrusted them. He sees millions of unborn babies murdered by their mothers who are carrying them. He sees other thousands of babies abandoned by their mothers after bringing them into this world. WHAT DOES GOD THINK?

The Bible says that no fornicator or adulterer shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven. What does God think when He sees over fifty percent of the married people living in adultery, or thousands of couples, unmarried, living together as man and wife, or homosexuals being installed into the ministry? The Apostle Paul, writing to Timothy in I Timothy 3 gives the qualifications of officials in the Church. For certain a homosexual does not qualify. God surely must be displeased with such installations.

What does God think of the many who break into homes and rape women? Who rob and steal and commit murder, oftentimes for a few pennies? The Bible plainly teaches that we are not to rob or steal or commit murder.

As God looks down from His Throne above with His all-seeing eye, what does He think when He sees cults and groups by the hundreds changing the Bible, writing new versions to satisfy their own whims, when God's Word says we are not to add to or take away from?

We are taught by God in His Word that we are to provide all things honest in His sight. What does He think when He beholds and watches all the gambling going on today? Lotteries, betting houses, roulette wheels, casinos, all in violation to His Holy Word. HOW IT MUST GRIEVE HIM!

He sees all the lustful acts committed by women with women, men with men and women with men as an abomination and He will certainly punish on the day of Judgment.

What does God think of those entered into a covenanted relationship with Him by Baptism, who promised Him to remain faithful until death, but since have given up their avowed faith?

God sees each one who denies His Son, Jesus, refusing to accept Him. What must He think of such who prefer eternal punishment, rather than accept that great GIFT that God provided?

What does God think, when mothers, who are commanded in God's Word "to be keepers at home," leave their children under the care of a baby sitter, in order to seek office, make a worldly career, or to gain fame and name?

When God created humans, He created them male and female. What does He think when He sees man going through operations to be changed into a female? And women going through operations to be changed into a male? He must assume that man thinks God made a mistake in creation.

And what about women dressing and acting like a man? What does God think about women who cut off their long hair and become a shame to themselves and a shame to God? Is God pleased with men with hippy hair?

When God sees religions uniting, getting away from God's Word and writing their own Bible to accommodate their belief, what does He think? And especially what does He think of Church leaders who advance such a movement?

What does God think of the movement called THE CHURCH OF SATAN which is spreading rapidly. The last figures I read were increasing in membership by ten thousand a year. Christ, sacrificed by God, established the CHURCH. Satan has his. What must God think, when people, His Creation, choose to follow Satan, rather than Christ and God? HE MUST SURELY BE DISPLEASED.

The world, governed by worldly leaders, is fast taking us into a one world religion, a one world government and a single monetary system. According to Scripture this does not please God as He looks down on the human family today.

THE CHURCH is definitely separated from the world. What does God think, when He sees so-called churches conducting dances, bazaars, bake sales, style shows, and so forth in the Church? We know what He thinks. Jesus cleansed the Temple two thousand years ago because they were making of it a house of merchandise and a den of thieves.

God asks His followers to dress in modest apparel. To be clothed in decency. What does He think when He sees men and women in the nude? Does He approve of naked swimming, nude beach clubs, nudist colonies, nude and raw sex scenes in theaters and over television? HE DOES NOT.

The list of prominent sins is endless. I could refer to more. In the beginning, when man disobeyed God, His Word says, "It grieved God that He made man." I do not see how God can take it much longer.

In light of Scripture which teaches us that there shall be a falling away, that things shall wax worse and worse, I see the fulfilling of the prophecies and the coming of Christ as very near at hand.

Brother Paul R. Myers

THE COPPER KETTLE

by Elder J. H. Moore

When I was about seventeen years old, my parents moved onto a farm in Adams County, this State, located about fifteen miles from where the main body of the Brethren lived. In course of time, arrangements were made to have preaching at a schoolhouse in our neighborhood, every eight weeks. The appointments were usually filled by Bro. David Wolf, son of Eld. Geo. Wolf, or Bro. Wm. Lirely. Both were good preachers, and usually drew large congregations.

In the fall, when the apples began to ripen, my parents, Virginia-like, concluded that we ought to make some apple-butter, hence made inquiry for a copper kettle, but none was to be found, as the people in that part of the country knew nothing about making apple-butter. Our meeting-day came, — we all attended of course, — and Bro. David Wolf preached. After meeting, one of the neighbors told my father that there was a Pennsylvanian living among the hills, about ten miles to the south, who had a large copper kettle that might possibly be had if he would send for it.

Early on Monday morning I was started out with a team, in search of the copper kettle. The route was not only rough, but difficult to follow. Finally I drove up to the well-improved little farm that had been pointed out as the place where the Pennsylvanian lived. Walking into the neatly-kept yard, I met a pleasant-looking gentleman, and asked if his name was _____. He replied in the affirmative. I then told him where I lived, and what I had come for, assuring him we would take good care of the kettle, and pay him for the use of it. He said that he had a large copper kettle, but would neither lend nor hire it out, as such a vessel cost a good deal, and was very easily spoiled. He stated that his had been injured a time or two, and he had concluded not to let it go any more.

Feeling the disappointment keenly, I apologized as best I could for troubling him, at the same time telling him that while at meeting the day before, one of our neighbors had told my father of the kettle, and that was the way we came to know of it. He asked me

where we attended meeting. I told him at the Bush schoolhouse, three miles east of Payson. "Who preached?" says he. I answered, "David Wolf." "To what church does he belong?" he eagerly inquired. "The Dunkard church," says I. "Is your father a member of the Dunkard church?" he asked. I told him he was. "All right," says he, "he can have the kettle, and is perfectly welcome to it. I used to know these fine people back in Pennsylvania, where I came from, and they were always honest, and would take good care of things." I was soon on my way home with the large copper kettle in the wagon, feeling wonderfully elated over the result of my trip.

On reaching home I told the whole story to my parents, and they felt not only a little proud of the good name the church had, but showed a decided appreciation for the way I had approached the Pennsylvanian and obtained the use of his kettle. The reader may rest assured that my parents did their best to preserve the good name of the Brethren church, and the kettle was returned in fine condition, with a sample of the kind of apple-butter we know how to make.

It is encouraging to note what a good impression honesty and uprightness had made on the mind of the man, who had moved from Pennsylvania twenty years before. He had not forgotten the Brethren and their honesty. That is the kind of religion that takes with thinking people. The borrowing of a copper kettle was a small affair, yet it brought to light the effects of honest living upon the part of others. That man had confidence in the very name "Dunkard". He thought that every one who belonged to the church was all right, and could be trusted. We trust he never had occasion to change his opinion.

- Selected from Our Saturday Night

OBITUARY

VIRGIL SMOOTZ

Brother Virgil T. Smootz of Route 1, Mt. Sidney, Virginia, son of Elmer and Blanche (Harris) Smootz was born near Antioch, West Virginia on January 18, 1920. He departed this life April 26, 1980. He was a member of the Dayton Dunkard Brethren Church, having united with the church at Ridge, West Virginia, October 20, 1934. He was ordained as a deacon on May 19, 1974.

On November 13, 1945, he married the former LaVerne Early, who survives. To this union, two children were born. One daughter, Connie, deceased; one son, Carroll, surviving and three grandchildren. Also surviving are one brother, Russell Smootz, of Antioch, West Virginia and one sister, Cletus Kauffman of Harrisonburg, Virginia.

The service was held at the Henry Funeral Home, Staunton, Virginia, on April 29, 1980 by Brother Virgil Leatherman and Brother Paul Reed.

DEATH OPENS THE DOOR TO LIFE EVERMORE

We live a short while on earth below,
Reluctant to die for we do not know
Just what "dark death" is all about
And so we view it with fear and doubt
Not certain of what is around the bend
We look on death as the final end
To all that made us a mortal being
And yet there lies just beyond our seeing
A beautiful life so full and complete
That we should leave with hurrying feet
To walk with God by sacred streams
Amid beauty and peace beyond our dreams —
For all who believe in the RISEN LORD
Have been assured of this reward
And death for them is just "graduation"
To a higher realm of wide elevation —
For life on earth is a transient affair,
Just a few brief years in which to prepare
For a life that is free from pain and tears
Where time is not counted by hours or years —
For death is only the method God chose
To colonize heaven with the souls of those
Who by their apprenticeship on earth
Proved worthy to dwell in the land of new birth —
So death is not sad... it's a time for elation,
A joyous transition ... the soul's emigration
Into a place where the soul's SAFE and FREE
To live with God through ETERNITY!

The family wishes to thank the Brethren, Sisters and many friends for the cards of sympathy, prayers and support during their bereavement.

MARRIAGE

DORSEY - SAYLOR

Sister Bertha R. Dorsey, Salisbury, Pennsylvania and Bro. Rufus W. Saylor, Manheim, Pennsylvania were united in marriage on March 29, 1980 at the Dunkard Brethren Church, Frystown, Pennsylvania by Elder James Kegerreis. Elder David Ebling gave the opening devotions. The couple are at home at R. 3, Box 619, Manheim, Pennsylvania.

NEWS ITEMS

McCLAVE, COLORADO

The Lord willing, the McClave, Colorado Congregation plans to hold their Fall Lovefeast services September 27 and 28, 1980.

Services will start at eleven o'clock Saturday morning. Lovefeast at 7:30 p.m.

We invite all who can, to come enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Aurelia Wertz, Cor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Waynesboro Congregation is again looking forward to another Lovefeast on Sunday, October 12, 1980. Services begin at 9:30 A.M. and continue throughout the day with Lovefeast proper in the evening. Come and worship with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Lord willing, the Grandview Congregation will hold a one week revival from October 5 through October 12, 1980.

Bro. David Ebling of Bernville, Pennsylvania will bring our messages.

On Saturday, October 11 there will be services beginning at 11 A.M. with our Lovefeast Service in the evening. There will also be services throughout Sunday.

Come enjoy these meetings with us. We ask an interest in your prayers for us here at this place.

Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

The Pleasant Home Congregation of Modesto, California held dedication services for their new church building July 27, 1980 at 3:30 in the afternoon. The church house was filled with members and friends.

The services were conducted by Bro. Rudy Cover and Bro. Hayes Reed of Modesto, California and Bro. Galen Litfin of Newberg, Oregon.

We are truly thankful for our new church that the Lord has provided. A hearty welcome is extended to come and worship with us anytime.

Sister Edyth Kline, Cor.

GOSHEN, INDIANA

The Goshen Congregation will have revival meetings from October 3 to 12, 1980. Bro. Warren Smith of McClave, Colorado will be the evangelist.

Lovefeast will be on October 11 at 7:30 with Examination Service at 2:00 P.M. Please pray for these meetings.

Sister Carolyn Peffer, Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR OCTOBER

October 5 — The Lord's Coming. Luke 17:22-37.

October 12 — The Persistent Widow; The Pharisee and the Publican. Luke 18:1-17.

October 19 — Total Commitment; "Follow Me." Luke 18:18-30.

October 26 — Jesus Foretells His Death; Healing a Blind Man. Luke 18:31-43.

Note: There is a mistake in the scripture reference on your Adult Sunday School leaflet.

Oct. 12 — change to Luke 18:1-17.

Nov. 16 — change to Luke 20:1-26.

QUESTIONS:

(1) How do world conditions today compare with those that were just before the flood and in the days of Lot? Luke 17:26-28.

(2) Though the unjust judge did not fear God nor regard man, why did he avenge the widow? Luke 18:4, 5.

(3) Why was the publican, though a sinner, justified before God? Luke 18:14.

(4) Why do you suppose Jesus asked the rich ruler to sell all that he had and give to the poor? Luke 18:22.

(5) Why did not the disciples understand when Jesus said plainly that He would be put to death? Luke 18:34.

(6) What did the blind man receive besides his sight? What did Jesus say was the reason for it? Luke 18:12.

To be a man's own fool is bad enough; but the vain man is everybody's. — Penn.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR OCTOBER, 1980

DEATH

Memory Verse: Psa. 56:13
For thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt not thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

Wed. 1 - Psa. 44:1-26
Thur. 2 - Psa. 48:1-14
Fri. 3 - Psa. 49:1-20
Sat. 4 - Psa. 55:1-23

Memory Verse: Psa. 89:48
What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave?

Sun. 5 - Psa. 56:1-13
Mon. 6 - Psa. 68:1-18
Tues. 7 - Psa. 68:19-35
Wed. 8 - Psa. 73:1-28
Thurs. 9 - Psa. 78:1-24
Fri. 10 - Psa. 78:25-48
Sat. 11 - Psa. 78:49-72

Memory Verse: Psa. 116:15
Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

Sun. 12 - Psa. 89:1-27
Mon. 13 - Psa. 89:28-52
Tues. 14 - Psa. 102:1-28
Wed. 15 - Psa. 107:1-21
Thurs. 16 - Psa. 107:22-43
Fri. 17 - Psa. 116:1-19
Sat. 18 - Psa. 118:1-29

Memory Verse: Prov. 10:2
Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death.

Sun. 19 - Prov. 2:1-22
Mon. 20 - Prov. 5:1-23
Tues. 21 - Prov. 8:1-36
Wed. 22 - Prov. 10:1-32
Thurs. 23 - Prov. 11:1-31
Fri. 24 - Prov. 12:1-28
Sat. 25 - Prov. 13:1-25

Memory Verse: Prov. 11:19
As righteousness tendeth to life: so he that pursueth evil pursueth it to his own death.

Sun. 26 - Prov. 14:1-35
Mon. 27 - Prov. 16:1-33
Tues. 28 - Prov. 18:1-24
Wed. 29 - Prov. 21:1-31
Thurs. 30 - Prov. 24:1-34
Fri. 31 - Prov. 26:1-28

Memory Verses: Prov. 14:12
There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Prov. 18:21
Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII OCTOBER 1, 1980 NO. 19

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Faith of our fathers! living still
In spite of dungeon, fire and sword:
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word!
Faith of our fathers! holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

Our fathers, chained in prisons dark,
Were still in heart and conscience free:
How sweet would be their children's fate,
If they, like them, could die for thee!
Faith of our fathers! holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

Faith of our fathers! we will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife:
And preach thee, too, as love knows how,
By kindly words and virtuous life:
Faith of our fathers! holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death.

- Frederick W. Faber

OUR HERITAGE

The heritage of a family or a people is an inheritance, whether sacred or secular, that is passed down from generation to generation. An heritage may be intangible. There may not be any keepsakes but the beliefs, history and practices that have been handed down from generation to generation constitute the heritage.

The Church has a wonderful heritage. This heritage belongs to each member, whether he is the first of his family to be a part of her or he is but one of a long line of members. Many families can trace their lineage to ancestors who came from Europe to obtain religious freedom. Others can trace back only a few generations and still others have only the record of their own lives. Yet each one is a part of and a contributor to the Church's heritage.

What is the value of this heritage? Whether one descends from a long line of Dunkard people or he is the first, the salvation of his soul does not depend upon his ancestors but upon Jesus Christ. It is the privilege and responsibility of each to make the necessary choice of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. Ancestors can not make that choice for you nor can they live your life. However, there is encouragement and experience in that line of ancestors who have faithfully served God. In these dedicated lives and the practices, carried forward by the family, there is a leaning toward that way which is passed on to each generation.

It is obvious that even this great heritage is no substitute for the blood of Jesus Christ. Many who have received this heritage have spurned it like Esau. For a mess of pottage (worldly fame, fortune and fun) they have sold their birthright. They have turned from the

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way of their forefathers to follow a more self-pleasing way. As inspiring as the ministers and elders, who populate the family tree, are, the ministers and elders of today are of more value towards the salvation of our souls.

We have a wonderful inheritance from our Dunkard forefathers when we consider the work they accomplished. The histories that have been and will be written will never tell all these pioneers did, whether officials or lay members, whether Brethren or Sisters. They were willing to be separate from the world which brought upn them varying degrees of persecution, ranging from ridicule to imprisonment. The persecutions of Europe drove many to the New World. As they moved westward, often in colonies, they established their Church in their new communities.

From these people came their ministers and leaders. These leaders were on the same level as their congregations. It was a free ministry, untrained in a school of theology. Their sermons were studied out while working in the fields or by the lamp of the log cabin. Their teacher was the Holy Spirit, who could lead them into the truths of the Bible and could direct their speaking so their friends and neighbors were edified by the message. These ministers were willing to go wherever needed, often risking their lives and suffering financially for their efforts. To look back at these saints of old should prod us, as we lounge in our easy-chairs, to greater efforts in seeking the lost and in encouraging the isolated.

This should be an inspiring heritage for each of us, whatever our personal ancestry may be. Whether they were officials or not, they were willing to follow the Bible's teachings even when those teachings were not popular. In times of warfare and national turmoil they were often opposed by their peers and ill treated by the civil authorities because they were non-resistant. By their willingness to stand on Biblical principles they have left us a more inspiring heritage than those who were glorified for their militaristic attitudes.

These Dunkards of old were distinguishable not only by their beliefs but also by their appearance. While their appearance in the rural, pioneer areas may not have been radically different from the most of their neighbors, in the cities and especially as the industrial revolution intensified the production of cheap, fashionable clothing, their appearance became more at variance with their neighbors. This difference in appearance made it necessary for them to redouble their efforts to live up to the Bible's teachings for they were very visible. This willingness to be and to look different, although it brought ridicule, has also left us an heritage of a willingness to follow God rather than man.

Whether you are the first or you are a descendant of a family that has long served God, you have a wonderful heritage. Are you doing your best to insure that this heritage will be passed on to the next generation untarnished? You have a great heritage, keep it that way!

1980 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from September 15, 1980 Issue

Monday A.M.

Moderator: Bro. Kenneth Wolfe.

Chorister: Bro. Tom St. John.

Opening: Bro. Alvin Chupp. Phil. 2:16.

We need to labor earnestly. Are we just trying to save ourselves? We must have an outreach. Do we uphold the Dunkard Brethren Church? We must uphold the Bible. Do we have a preference or a conviction concerning the Church. We have a great work to do and there are only a few of us. We need each other. The labor can not all be left up to the ministry.

Bible Study: Bro. Paul Stump. The Good Samaritan. Luke 10:25-42.

The Lawyer came to tempt Jesus. How can we tempt God? By questioning God's Word. By not believing His ability to care for us. The lawyer gave a good answer to Jesus' question but tempted Jesus by justifying himself. He knew the law but didn't live it. Do we love God with our whole being. How do we show it? Just by speech? Love connected with keeping commandments. Must seek Kingdom of Heaven first. Do we apply commandments to ourselves? We have a responsibility to use the knowledge we have.

Must love our neighbors as ourselves. How much do we love ourselves? Who is your neighbor? Are we to love those who do not do as they should? Do we hold things against people? We are to love our enemies.

The Priest and the Levite passed by but the despised Samaritan took care of the wounded man. This was a total stranger yet he cared for him. Are we like the Samaritan or the Priest and Levite? Do we justify ourselves like this lawyer, the rich young ruler or the Pharisee? When we realize that when we have done all we could, it still is so little. The right attitude is necessary to make the giving blessed. We must overcome the carnal man's attitude within us. Should we help those who waste the help given to them? Do we give up too quickly? People not only need physical help but Spiritual too. Love demands action. The Priest and Levite just looked but did nothing. Faith needs works to be demonstrated. We should apply the Golden Rule to the situation. How would we want to be treated in a similar situation?

Mary was found at the feet of Jesus. Jesus rebuked Martha for her too great care for temporal things. These things can get in the road of our Spirituality. Even our thoughts can be cumbersome and limit our Spiritual intake. We must chose the good part like Mary.

Speaker: Bro. John Peffer. Heb. 12:14.

There are several reasons why we should live holy lives. First, Heaven is a Holy Place prepared for a holy people. Without holiness we can not see the Lord. How much holiness do we have? God wants a holy people and there are several reasons why He wants a holy people.

Holiness is the Word of God. It is more than being baptized. All of Israel came through the Red Sea, ate the Spiritual food and drank Spiritual drink, but most fell afterwards through disobedience. I Cor. 10:1-12. They fell not because the journey was so long but because of sin. They neared the Promised Land on occasion but had to journey further. Isa. 6:1-8. Jude said to "earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints." Isaiah saw the holy place of God, he saw God everywhere. Today we have a world filled with wickedness so we are about like Isaiah having unclean lips. Even though we have been Christians for many years are we as mature as we should be. Even John the Revelator, though old in years, had to be set straight on the occasion of worshipping the angel.

God wants a holy people. Is time one of our problems in fulfilling the call to serve Him? Once Isaiah's lips were cleansed he was willing to go. Have we had a soul in our heart's concern, have we thought to speak to that soul, have we actually spoken to the soul concerning their salvation.

Titus 2:1-3. Holiness is not a feeling, not a tingling spine. The duty of each type of person is to teach holy living to others. The various duties of holy living are listed here. Women working out may be a reason for high divorce because more time is spent with other men at work. Mothers are not at home with their daughters to teach them how to be homemakers or morals.

God wants holy people because He wants the first place in your Temple or body as a dwelling place for His Spirit. Also so we can be a light, a witness, in the community. God loves the unloved and unwanted. One soul is worth more than the whole world to Him, so we should be a witness to these, whether one or many.

Ruth points out what is needed to serve God. "Thy God shall be my God, thy people shall be my people." This identification is needed in witnessing to lost souls. The quality of friendship put in our hearts by God. Must show ourselves to be friends to have friends. This is in our immediate community. God used Ruth and Naomi to preserve the Promised Seed. God will in all times have a

people to carry forth His message through friendship. When troubles come to the lost, they will call upon the Christian to help them. We should have a desire to be usable. Sometimes we see opportunities but we do not use them. Ruth gleaned in the field after the reapers. She worked all day long. She was humble. Humility is a grace of God. After the Devil has reaped a soul for years, the Lord can still glean the good. Christ gleaned the thief on the cross.

May we have a desire to be a holy people for God. May we be friendly and humble that souls may be won.

Closing: Bro. Carl Broadwater. Rom. 1:3-4.

There must be a spirit of holiness within us if we have been resurrected to a new life through Jesus Christ.

To be continued.

THE RISING GENERATION AND PRECIOUS MEMORIES OF THE PAST

As I undertake this subject, I think of my boyhood days when Father and Mother were young. They made great sacrifices for the good of their children. They believed in the plain, simple life and the wearing of modest apparel. They labored earnestly to set a good example for their children and others. I know most of us who are old in this life have noticed there has been a falling away, a departing, from the faith of the Gospel of Christ. I have precious memories of many years ago and of many faithful Christians and their labors and great sacrifices for good.

We realize in our day many professing Christians are not true Christian examples. Many years ago being true and honest was more highly regarded among people than it is today. We know of many that have suffered because of not taking good advice from their faithful fore-parents. There is a departing from the way of truth and righteousness and an increase of all manner of evil and wickedness. We are living in perilous times. It appears according to the Gospel prophecies we are nearing the end of time on earth. Have we put on the whole armour of God and become bright and shining lights to those who are living in darkness?

It is a precious memory to know our parents and grandparents believed and exemplified the way of truth and righteousness. No one can be faithful and true and disrespect or dishonor their faithful fore-parents. If many would have prized their blessed Christian heritage more, today professing Christendom would be much closer to the saving Gospel of Christ. We need the plain and simple life to meet the holy and divine will of God. No one can be faithful to the saving Gospel of Christ and disrespect it. It is required of those who are raising children to bring them up in the

fear and admonition of the Lord, and children are to honor father and mother that it might be well with them.

In our time we have often seen where sin has brought suffering in this life but it is not much compared to that in store in Eternity. My father said that the aged people said the evil fashions of the world is a sign that shows there is a spiritual death inside. Have we renounced Satan with all the sinful pleasures of this world? We cannot serve two masters.

Many of our fore-parents came to this country for freedom of worship. Our country was called a Christian nation. I do not believe we can truly call it that now.

I have this record through the deeds to the farm I am living on. In 1724, back eight generations, the one that bought it came from Europe. I have some of the benches that I was told were used when they had Church services in the home. I remember when I was a boy when Church services were held in the school building that was built on the farm. On the farm is a cemetery where the most of my ancestors who held this farm are laid to rest. The tombstones cite Scripture verses speaking of the better life to come. They cannot be seen in this life but I believe we'll see them in a Better Place.

We respect and honor those who have done so much for our good in all things. Be thankful for that which the Lord has entrusted into our care. Referring to Christians, He said, "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel." We are to be living epistles known and read of all men.

There was a day when Bible reading and prayer was the first thing in the morning before classes at school. This was through our God fearing fore-parents. If we are to have God's blessings and protection, we need to turn to Him for guidance. He will help us through this wilderness of sin. What can we do, so many will turn to the path of truth and righteousness? It is a precious memory to think of the old country school named Markses' School, where the children were all decent and resepectly dressed. Religious services were held at times in this building.

Our aim should be to make our calling and election sure. Let us not be among them that represent the good seed which has fallen on stoney ground. Failing health makes us feel at times we may not be long in this world. It may be later than we think. Our life is as a vapor. It appears for a season then vanishes away. What is in store for the rising generation in this day of great wickedness? Perilous times have come.

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"AND ALSO TO THE GENTILE"

Come Unto Me - Part 2

Continued from September 15, 1980 Issue

In the December 15, 1977 issue of the Bible Monitor, you read about Steven Trujillo in "White Man's God." An older Navajo with Parkinson's disease, Steven's outlook was not good. He had not accepted Christ and because of his poor health, he lacked the incentive to take care of his soul's need. If Steven were able to, I'm sure he would say, "thank you," to all who prayed for him. He accepted Christ and was baptized early in 1979. His testimony, somewhat broken because of difficulty in speaking, was this: "I happy. Jesus in here (pointing to his heart). I feel so happy I could run a mile. No more afraid to die."

Steven's physical condition certainly would not allow him to run, but joy was there because his spirit was free. Bro. Rick St. John said of Steven, "His health was never good, but he showed alot of enthusiasm for the services at Torreon and Anthill. He was always ready and waiting to be picked up. It is very difficult for Steven to speak. He can sing more easily, but can barely carry on a conversation now. At one time he was fluent in both Navajo and English, but uses mostly English now."

Bro. Rick also talked of Juanita Trujillo (as he knew her — at times she went by Toledo). She had attended services for many years, but drank most of her life and was really in the gutter. Finally, in her eighties, she accepted Christ. (This was several months before she died, not several weeks as previously stated.) She couldn't speak English, but Bro. Frank explained the Christian way to her. When she participated in a Communion service, her face just glowed, she was so happy. Juanita was handicapped by the language barrier, but she was still able to grasp the plan of salvation.

Bro. Ed St. John taught a teenage boys' Bible School class one summer. He told of a simple incident which contains a lesson for us. "It was a hot day and during class time, one Navajo boy asked if he could get a drink of water. Permission was granted, the boy left, but did not return. He was over playing basketball. The reason he didn't return was he was more interested in basketball than in the class. We Christians are often like that. Our interest is not in the Church services or the work. Even though we are present, our thoughts are elsewhere. I had to say 'No, I can't trust you' to others who asked to get a drink. If one of us is not trustworthy in the Lord's services, we make a hardship on those who are."

Concerning the work at Torreon, Bro. Ed said, "There is no way to know how much we may help someone by the little things we say and do. Helping in the work changes attitudes and encourages Christian growth in the worker. It also helps draw family members to Christ whose lives are touched by the missionary's life."

Bro. Dennis St. John was at Torreon several days to hold evangelistic services. He was much impressed with Bro. Frank's interpreting and his desire to share Christ with his people. He puts alot of expression in his interpreting. Bro. Rick said Frank had been a heavy drinker and would spend two or three weeks at a time in a bar, then go home for awhile. His wife eventually left him. Frank feels that he is paying now for his past sins in his health problems. He has trouble getting around and must have help at times.

Bro. Harley Flory related that Frank gave a talk to the staff and directors one year. When he had finished, there wasn't a dry eye in the place. Frank's life had certainly been a wild one before he found Christ, but now there was a meaning and purpose for his life. Bro. Harley spoke also of Rose Trujillo, a Baptist, who interpreted for him. He expressed joy because there is now a Church at Anthill, about fifteen miles from Torreon, with services there on a regular basis. They have a Bible School session there also.

It may seem like alot of work and running to pick up the Navajos for services, but they need the gospel of Christ, too. We have no right to just present the gospel when or where it's convenient and then forget the rest. In the Great Commission, Jesus said, "Go... and teach all." If you can't go, you can support those who do with your prayers and love-gifts. Having someone else go does not eliminate your share of the responsibility.

I can't give you the total of the Navajos who have accepted Christ in the last twenty-four years at Torreon, but even one makes it all worthwhile. Because of the prayers, teaching and money invested in the labor of love at Torreon, ones like Steven, Frank and Juanita can know the joy of having their sins forgiven and the peace of Christ in their hearts. Would you want to deny them that? "Likewise I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." Luke 15:10. Many have caused the angels to rejoice. Is there joy in your heart also?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

• • • ● • • •

He that cannot forgive others, breaks the bridge over which he himself must pass if he would ever reach heaven; for every one has need to be forgiven. — Herbert.

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

WHO IS THE GREATEST?

Matt. 18:1-3; Mark 9:33-37; Luke 9:46-48

Jesus talked much about the Kingdom of Heaven to His disciples. They didn't understand what kind of kingdom Jesus was talking about. They hoped that Jesus, who could do miracles like healing the sick and making the blind see, would surely be a great King over all the world and He would rule over all the kingdoms of the earth. Israel, God's people, were in bondage to the great Roman Empire. They had to pay taxes and obey the laws of the Emperor of Rome. They were hoping that soon God would send a great King for them that would overcome and subdue all their enemies. The disciples were convinced that Jesus was the one and very soon great things were going to happen.

Of course, they reasoned among themselves, if Jesus were King, then those who were near Him would have very important places in this new Kingdom. Jesus had even chosen them to be His disciples.

They came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?" Jesus sat down and called the twelve disciples to Him and said, "If a man desires to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all."

What do you suppose the disciples thought? Each would have desired to be first in the kingdom and have the most honorable position. Doesn't everyone like to be great? Jesus was telling them if they had such a desire they would be last. How could this be? This was very confusing, to say the least. And Jesus said such a one would be a servant of all! This was just too much!

Then Jesus took a little child and set him in the midst of the disciples and said unto them, "Except you be converted and become as little children, you can not enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little one in my name, receiveth me." This was straight talk, indeed. Jesus says we must be humble as a little child. Children forgive easily. They don't hold a grudge. Grown-up people are inclined to be independent and have their own way with little consideration for others. A little child is dependent on his parents. He knows that he needs help. When a child gets hurt or in trouble, what does he do? Why, he runs to mother or father for help and sympathy. That's the way Jesus wants us to be. He wants us to depend on Him when we have trouble or problems. Jesus wants us to come to Him and talk it over. Jesus says, "Humble yourselves in the sight of God and the Lord will lift you up."

Jesus was humble. He made himself of no reputation. He was always praying to His Heavenly Father and depending upon Him for strength and help. Jesus did not come to establish an earthly kingdom but a heavenly kingdom. The rules of the Kingdom of Heaven are not the same as the kingdom of this world. Who is the greatest? God is the greatest. Jesus said, "My Father is greater than I." When we have the mind of Christ, then we can humble ourselves as a little child and Jesus will bless.

Brother Rudy Cover

"THERE IS NONE ELSE"

"There is none else" — Isaiah 45:18, 22.
"There is no other Name" — Acts 4:12.

Not in any earthly prospect,
How ever fair it be;
Not in what your hands are holding,
Not in what your eyes can see —
Faith demands a surer footing
Than such fleeting things afford;
Faith can find it in no other
Save in Jesus Christ, the Lord.

Plans that promise rich fruition,
Hopes are rosy as the dawn,
Dreams of fancied good awaiting —
None are safe to build upon.
Even friends the dearest, truest,
Too may fail for lack of power
To provide the needed succor
In some dark and crucial hour.

Vain are all the world's proposals,
Systems, creeds, philosophies,
Fleshly struggles and endeavors —
Futile, worthless, all of these;
They are only sheer illusion,
Arts of Satan to deceive;
Only One in earth or Heaven
Sin's distempers can relieve.

Only One and He the "Highest",
God's exalted, mighty Son,
Of your confidence is worthy —
Trust in Him, in Him alone!
Things of time and sense will vanish;

Nothing here for long abides;
"Rock of Ages" He remaineth,
And "there is none else" besides.

- Selected by Brother L. A. Shumake

ETERNAL SECURITY

Is it possible to be eternally lost, after having been truly converted? When once born into the family of God, can we be unborn? These much disputed questions can rightly be settled, only by the infallible Word of GOD. May the Holy Spirit help us to see the fallacy of trusting our ETERNAL DESTINY on the shifting opinions of "pigmy men."

All we finite creatures show our audacity when we criticise the infinite, and vainly endeavor to set aside his decrees. Let us see what GOD HIMSELF says.

"When the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, ... SHALL HE LIVE? All his righteousness that he hath done SHALL NOT BE MENTIONED:... in his sin that he hath sinned, IN THEM SHALL HE DIE. Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, ... is not my way equal? When a righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity and dieth in them; for his iniquity that he hath done shall HE DIE." Ezek. 18:24-26.

"And if some of the BRANCHES be B-R-O-K-E-N O-F-F,... Boast not against the branches... Thou wilt say then, The branches were BROKEN OFF, that I might be grafted in. Well, because of UNBELIEF they were broken off, and thou stand by faith. Be not highminded, BUT FEAR; for if GOD SPARED NOT THE NATURAL BRANCHES, take heed lest he also SPARE NOT THEE. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which F-E-L-L, severity; but toward thee, goodness, IF THOU C-O-N-T-I-N-U-E in his goodness; OTHERWISE thou A-L-S-O shalt be C-U-T-O-F-F." Rom. 11:17-22.

Let us examine two bible characters, both born into the Kingdom of God, faithful to their Lord for a time, then failed to keep His commands, went into sin, forfeited their birthright and were L-O-S-T.

"And Kish had a son, whose name was Saul, A CHOICE YOUNG MAN, and a goodly: and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he:" I Sam. 9:2a. He was God's choice for Israel's first king. "When Saul had turned... to go from Samuel, GOD GAVE HIM ANOTHER HEART:" Here is a record of his SPIRITUAL BIRTH. Then comes the evidence and fruit of that BIRTH.

"A company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of GOD CAME UPON HIM, and he prophesied among them." I Sam. 10:9-10. His new birth and the baptism of the Holy Spirit fully prepares him to be king. This God-given experience humbles him greatly and makes him feel unworthy, so he hides in order to keep from being anointed king. I Sam. 10:22-24.

After being placed into office under these favorable circumstances, he proves to be a righteous ruler for some time. Later on, however he depends less upon God and uses his kingly powers to usurp priestly authority, an office that God had not given him. "Samuel said to Saul, Thou has not kept the commandment of the Lord thy God." I Sam. 12:8-14.

Poor man, he should have acknowledged his sin, repented, and made a plea for pardon. God would then have shown mercy, and lifted him from his sad fall. Bible readers will remember David's heinous sin, and how he repented and prayed until God restored him. King Saul took another course, however, going from bad to worse until "The Spirit of the Lord DEPARTED from him, and an evil spirit troubled him." I Sam. 16:14.

"Saul answered, I am sore distressed;... God is DEPARTED from me, and ANSWERETH ME NO MORE." The good prophet Samuel is dead, and God refuses to help Saul any longer, so he hunts up a fortune teller, and the Witch of Endor gives him some startling news. He now learns that "GOD HAS BECOME HIS ENEMY." Still he refuses to repent of his wickedness, and is rapidly going beyond all hope of recovery. The Philistines are defeating his army in battle, and he is about to be captured. He commands his armour-bearer to thrust him through with his sword. The soldier refuses to perform this frightful deed. So this FALLEN king, after having had ample opportunity to get back to God, proceeds to end his own life by committing suicide, and is ETERNALLY LOST. I Sam. chapters 13 to 31.

The following scriptures force us to believe that JUDAS ISCARIOT was also really saved at one time in his life. His name was WRITTEN IN HEAVEN. Luke 10:17-20. He was also numbered as one of the first disciples of Jesus, and Jesus after an all-night of prayer, chose his TWELVE APOSTLES, and Judas was promoted by his Lord as a suitable person to fill this high office. Luke 6:12-16.

He must have been a FAITHFUL and RELIABLE APOSTLE since having the distinction of holding the important office of treasurer. He was also commissioned by our Lord to preach the everlasting gospel, to heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils, and so forth. Matt. 10:1-8. Can we imagine that Jesus would bestow His high and holy calling on a sinner? He, along with the other eleven, had GREAT SUCCESS in the work of the kingdom.

See Mark 6:12-13, Luke 10:17-20.

While Judas was fulfilling his divine calling, the record of his life is very pleasing. We rejoice at his devotion and faithfulness to his God. From the time of his fall, however, we are horrified at what we find recorded. He goes into sin, betrays his Lord, loses the favor of God, commits suicide, and is LOST. Luke 22:3-6, Matt. 27:3-5.

It seems almost impossible to believe these things, but God's infallible word records the facts and we are driven to this dismal conclusion "After the sop Satan ENTERED into Judas." John 13:2, 27, 30. He now loses the Divine power to cast out devils by admitting one into his own heart. He also gives up his holy calling of preaching the gospel, and goes on another mission, that of selling his Lord. Acts 1:25 tells us that Judas by TRANSGRESSION F-E-L-L, and went to his own place.

These two examples — King Saul in the Old Testament and Judas Iscariot in the New — should be sufficient proof to show that the man-made theory of "once saved never lost" is a treacherous foundation upon which to build.

Yet, in the face of these bible facts, some still cling to their human notions; and in order to justify themselves declare that these men were predestined to do as they did. Does not this theory make God a tyrant, to punish a man for doing what he was predestined to do? Let us beware lest we charge God with sin.

"IF LUCIFER, SON OF THE MORNING," and a third of the holy angels could lose their place in HEAVEN, and be cast down to HELL, then should not we earthly mortals who occupy a lower sphere than they, take heed lest we fall and be lost with them? Isaiah 14:12; I Cor. 10:12; II Peter 2:4.

The great apostle Paul must have felt that he could fall from his high state of grace, for he says: "Lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a CASTAWAY." I Cor. 9:27.

Timothy writes about some that "DEPART from the FAITH, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." I Tim. 4:1.

Peter tells of some "Who have FORSAKEN the right way, and are gone astray." He also says, "If after they have ESCAPED the pollutions of the world... they are AGAIN entangled therein, and overcome, the LATTER end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have KNOWN THE WAY OF RIGHTEOUSNESS than, after they have known it, TO TURN from the holy commandment delivered unto them." II Peter 2:15-22.

God says, "He that overcometh... I will not BLOT OUT his name out of the BOOK OF LIFE." Rev. 3:5. This and the following passage, plainly show that our names may be BLOTTED OUT OF THE BOOK OF LIFE, after having been WRITTEN IN, and though

we cannot be UNBORN after birth, yet it is possible to FORFEIT and LOSE our birthright. "God shall T-A-K-E A-W-A-Y his part O-U-T of the BOOK OF LIFE, and OUT of the HOLY CITY." Rev. 22:19.

Selected by Brother Ray Stuber

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

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NEWS ITEMS

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lititz Congregation plans to have their Fall Lovefeast on Saturday, October 18, starting at 2 o'clock with Lovefeast in the evening.

We plan to start our revival meeting November 2 for two weeks ending November 16 with Elder Dale Jamison as our evangelist. A hearty invitation is extended to all who can attend our Lovefeast and our revival.

Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

The Pleasant Home Congregation of Modesto, California will be holding a revival October 31 through November 9, the Lord willing.

Elder Allen Eberly of Ephrata, Pennsylvania will be our Evangelist. A Lovefeast service will be held in the evening, November 8.

We extend a hearty invitation for all to come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Edyth Kline, Cor.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

Come, ye thankful people, come, Raise the song of harvest-home:
All is safely gathered in, Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide For our wants to be supplied:
Come to God's own temple, come, Raise the song of harvest-home.

All the world is God's own field, Fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown, Unto joy or sorrow grown;
First the blade, and then the ear, Then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we Wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take His harvest home;
From His field shall in that day All offenses purge away;
Give His angels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store In His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in, Free from sorrow, free from sin;
There forever purified, In Thy presence to abide:
Come, with all Thine angels, come, Raise the glorious harvest-home.

— Henry Alford

HELP

Today's world is full of independent, self-sufficient people. At least in their own estimation, they are well able to care for themselves. They do not need any help from anybody, including God. They are proud of what they have accomplished.

While this attitude might be associated with the rich, who have gained their riches by astute business management, it may just as easily be found among those who are not rich. Those having this attitude do not want to accept help from anyone. This self-sufficiency may not only involve temporal things but Spiritual as well. Many have Spiritual needs, but are too independent to receive the help they need.

Can anyone truly claim that he has, by himself, provided for all of his needs? Even the most independent must admit that they do not have control over their own life and health, for God is the giver and preserver of life. He has created the earth and its surrounding atmosphere so life can be sustained. Certainly the God, who was able to give life to our bodies of clay and who knew the exact conditions needed to sustain that life, is well able to help us day by day. We should be thankful for life and for His every provision for each day.

God often uses indirect means to accomplish His ends. Often He uses us to help others. As He has helped all, we have the opportunity to help those we are in contact with. This help may be financial, physical, advisory or Spiritual. But whatever form this help takes, it will not be of any value unless it is accepted.

There is more danger in refusing help than in receiving too much help. Refusing needed help is a form of pride. It marks one as being,

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in his own mind, self-sufficient when in reality he does not understand his own true condition. The refusal of temporal aid may increase the problems of this life but the refusal of Spiritual aid will have eternal consequences. A man by dogged persistance and self-sufficient pride may be able to make his way in this world, however unkindly or self-defeating it may be. But he will not be able to save his own soul or another's.

The plan of salvation was drawn through God's love, mercy and grace. Without it salvation would not be available to anyone. While its provisions demand a response in faith and action upon the believer's part, ignoring it will mean facing eternity unprepared. Man's spiritual condition is dependant upon help from others. The most important help of course is God's, but through the Church others also have a part.

The Church offers help through the preaching of the Gospel which the Holy Spirit uses to convict, convince and judge sinners. The Church provides the way of the salvation, since it is there the sinner demonstrates his faith and repentance and is baptized into the Body. The Church provides the fellowship necessary for each soul. The Church provides for the temporal needs of her members when that is necessary. The Church also sets the guidelines for Christian living through the application of the Bible's principles to everyday living. In many ways the Church is a help to her members. She stands as a potential help to all, who will hear and heed the Gospel she proclaims.

Help is good not only for the recipient but also for the giver. When offered help is refused, the potential giver may feel slighted and his desire to help others may be lessened. The one who helps and the one who is helped should be drawn closer together, for they together are sharing the same problem. The one who is in need may in turn give help to one who wishes to help him by receiving that help.

Help, whether temporal or Spiritual, is a necessary thing for each of us. It is impossible to go through life without receiving help of some kind. We receive help first of all from God, from our fellowmen and from the Church.

If you have a need, receive the help that is available. If your eternal soul's destiny is important to you, then please accept that help that is so readily available. Do not allow a false pride to deter you from receiving that help. Then you will be in the place you can truly help others.

It is in vain for you to expect, it is impudent for you to ask of God forgiveness for yourself if you refuse to exercise this forgiving temper as to others. — Hoadly.

1980 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from October 1, 1980 Issue

Monday P.M.

Moderator: Bro. David Kegerreis.

Opening: Bro. Berton Smith. II Kings 17:27-28.

The children of Israel had disobeyed the Lord to the extent that He allowed the Assyrians to overrun the land. Lions were sent among the people so the Assyrians sent for priests of the Lord to deliver them. Isa. 29:13-14, II Pet. 2:19. As we today have the privilege of studying God's Word do we think that sometimes it is strange.

First Speaker: Bro. Fred Pifer. For This Child I Prayed. I Sam. 1:27.

Samuel was a remarkable man. Before he was a man, he was a child. Before he was a child there was a remarkable mother. Although Eli misunderstood her, she had a very great desire for a child to give to the Lord. Are we as faithful as Hannah in fulfilling vows made in our prayers to God?

Children must be prayed form, even before conception and birth. It is a great responsibility to bring another soul into this world. Hannah knew where to find her help when she wanted the child. Prayer must continue as the child grows. Hannah took Samuel to the House of the Lord. There are many places for families to go other than to Church. She went back to Eli not to his sinful sons. Youth is no excuse for evil living. I Sam. 2:18. Samuel served in the house of the Lord. Hannah continued to care for her son. Still important for mothers to pray for their children.

Parents should pray for and with them. We should pray for each other that each might have the wisdom needed from God to raise our children. You will never go wrong praying for and with your child.

There are many things we can give and many things we can do for our child. At the end of life, things will seem small but the opportunities for prayer will seem large. Some parents provide thousands of dollars or a farm for each child, but these material things are not as great as teaching the child to pray. Hannah knew the power of prayer. Power is something other than the car's engine, it is the power of God which is realized through prayer. Sometimes the little children can teach the parents how to pray.

Answered prayer is real. Although He does not always answer as we would desire. Prayer is often answered by the labor of our hands and hearts. God depends on us sometimes to answer our prayers. Building an ark or raising a child for God requires many years of labor. Never stop praying for the wayward child.

When we pray with and for our children we are showing them that we depend on God. It shows that our strength comes from God. Children realize that we fail many times. If we consider ourselves to be self-sufficient we are fooling ourselves and no one else. Then when the child has trouble he will know to seek God's help.

Our example of prayer will teach them how to pray. They won't be ashamed to pray even in public. Never be ashamed to ask the Heavenly Father.

The child will also see in our praying that we care enough for him to entreat the Lord for help. Trouble that comes later in children's lives might have been avoided if the parents had spent time with their children.

Our prayers should be accompanied by greater efforts on our part to help our child. Sacrifices are needful in the education of the child to protect the child from the world's influences that we pray for protection from.

The only thing you can take with you out of this world is your child. If you have accepted the responsibility that goes with the birth of the child and pray, that child can also be prepared for that Heavenly Home. The greatest thing you can do is pray for your child.

Second Speaker: Bro. Eldon Mallow. Heaven. Matt. 6:19-21.

There are many treasures here on earth. The Bible tells us also of treasures in Heaven. We need to be deeply concerned about the treasures we have that will survive this life. What steps are we taking toward Heaven? Are we headed upward or downward? These scriptures should be one of our greatest lessons. The treasures of this life will only last for awhile. God has prepared a wonderful place for all of us. We have a right to that treasure.

This earth's treasures can be taken from you. The Heavenly treasure cannot be taken by any man. The corruptible treasures of this earth will not be found in Heaven. Our hearts will be centered upon our treasures. They should be centered upon Heavenly things. If risen with Christ we should seek the things above. Why not seek those Heavenly things that are awaiting us?

It is sad to consider those who are seeking the treasures of this world. They will only last for awhile. We should be thankful to God that we have a right to that Heavenly treasure, which we should be laying up for. If we could see what some of those treasures are we could be more inspired in our living here. It is a great challenge.

Rev. 21:3-5. We can see how much God loves us and what great treasure He has for us. John heard that great voice, which is still speaking to you and me. What is Heaven like? Heaven is the place of God's abode. John 14:2. Jesus spoke of the mansions prepared for us. These great treasures Above give us a great responsibility in this life. It is worth it all. God will be with men and be their light. In

turn we are to be a light, to do our part in this life. It is wonderful to have God in our midst. Are you working for the treasures or have you forgotten what these treasures are? God did His part for each one of us, He expects us to do our part in return.

God will there wipe away all tears from our eyes. That will make it all worthwhile. There will be no death there. That should thrill us. There will be no sorrow there unlike here, nor will there be pain. The former things are passed away. We think of the great things and people in this world when we should be thinking of the better things Above. We can be hindered by the things of this world.

Heaven is real because God's Word says so. Stephen was encouraged by the opening Heavens which revealed Jesus at God's right hand. If we could get such a glimpse of Heaven there would be a difference in each of our lives. God has prepared Heaven for us. But we must be willing to follow His terms. Heaven is for a prepared people. Prepared people do not allow the things of the world to turn them aside. If we are not careful in our preparations we will end up in the other place instead of Heaven. When we get to Heaven we will see how real it really is.

I trust that each one here has his name written over there. I hope each has something to be thankful for. Luke 10:20. Our hearts will be where our names are. There is room there for all believers. Jesus will be there. We need to be concerned about the treasures we lay up. God will not allow anything that He has not prepared to be there. Rev. 21:27. Would not be Heaven if the corrupt things of this earth were allowed in. That is why we are preparing here. We have a solid Rock to build upon. We have to be very careful in this life, especially with our tongues. Do we believe the promises of God? If so, we are preparing for that Home Above. We must be thankful for what God has given us. We must be prepared. There will be rejoicing on the Other Side if we are successful here in laying up treasures over there.

Closing: Bro. Merle Swihart.

Our hearts have been lifted upward. Parents and grandparents should never give up praying for the children.

Monday Evening

Moderator: Elder Jacob Ness.

Chorister: Bro. Leonard Wertz.

Opening: Elder L. A. Shumake. Psalms 19.

The Psalmist David praises God for His wonderful works. We have the perfect Word of God. It is perfect seed but seed if not sown is no good.

First Speaker: Elder Laverne Keeney. Power. Zech. 4:6b.

While we do not understand everything in the Word of God yet as Christians we do have an understanding that is beyond that of the world. The plan of salvation is plain and simple but kept from the wise but revealed to the lowly and believing.

The world presses upon us with her power. The devil is called the prince of the power of the air. The devil is present to snatch away the good things. II Tim. 3:1. The adversary is more brazen today than ever. The world is power crazy. There are many powers in the world. These are perilous times. Men want to control the whole universe yet cannot control their own minds.

Power is connected with the Holy Spirit. The Church has power. Jesus has all power. The World of God is powerful — more so than the two edged sword. Parents have the power to mold their families. Elijah saw the power of the world's opposition but his prayer brought a greater demonstration of God's power. God not in the great wind or earthquake or fire, but in a still small voice. It was powerful enough to renew Elijah's faith and courage. James 5 demonstrates the power of God. The inner power is greater than outer demonstration.

Christians are so named as those who act like Jesus acted. Therefore Christians have power. Too many fall in with the world's use and idea of power rather than holding to the power of Christian living. We must believe that the Church has power. Remember the little maid's testimony of Elisha's power to Naaman. It was not in words or actions but in obedience to the necessary commands. There is so much power made available to the Church in the ordinances and especially through the plan of salvation. It takes power to be separate from the world but it is available.

The view of Jesus as presented in Isaiah 53 does not show worldly power but He demonstrated a greater power. There was more power in God's still small voice than in the world's wind, earthquake and fire. The power is in the blood of Jesus. The one thief crucified with Jesus saw that power. That blood shows the power of His love.

This world is going to pass away but the power of God will endure. The world goes after the power of Satan because it is physical and visible but the blood of the Lamb will overcome him.

The people of God should be comforted and strengthened by the fact of His power. Therefore we cannot compromise the teachings of the Bible. We need the power of God to overcome the power of this world.

To be continued

If thou would'st be borne with, then bear with others. — Fuller.

NOT ENOUGH

It's not enough to just say you love Jesus. You must live like it also. "If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15. It certainly makes sense to give your life in service to the One who loved you and redeemed you. This one is Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God. If you have no desire to serve Him, how can you say that you love Him and appreciate what He has done for you? You are to publicly confess Christ, but lip service alone is not enough.

It is not enough to just tell someone about Christ and expect him or her to take it from there. You must love and pray for him also, and by your own life, lived in love, show what Christ has done for you. The world hates - but Christians love, not only in word but in deed. If your life does not show that you love, that you really care about others, then you are no different than those who know not Christ. No one will want what you have if it's no better than what they already have.

It's not enough just to have a working knowledge of God's Word, from which you can give all the right answers. The truth must be presented in love, so it is a stepping stone to faith in Christ, rather than wielded as a club of destruction. The Holy Spirit must go before you to prepare a person's heart and make it receptive to the truth. Until a person's heart is receptive, nearly everything you say will be wrong. You must be careful both how and when you talk with an unsaved person or backslider, lest you do more harm than good.

Prayer - loving, intercessory prayer - helps to open the door of another's heart. Prayer is a time of pleading to God for someone else's need, not a time for, "Lord, show him how wrong he is, and how right I am." If you don't love enough, you won't pray enough, and if you don't pray enough, you won't help enough. So often we think we don't talk enough, when in reality we talk too much. Saying the right thing, but at the wrong time is saying too much. Pray first, then talk later when the Lord opens the way.

Christian witnessing is important. It is not limited to talking, nor to just living a quiet Christian life. After all the talking is done and all the living is done, it still is not enough. Our witnessing must be done in love, the kind which makes us sensitive to another's needs. It is love which causes us to be concerned about others in the first place. If we don't really love people, both at home and away, we won't care whether any of them accept Christ or not. Love is needed, a sincere witness is needed, but a loving witness alone is not enough.

Wisdom - Godly wisdom, that is - is needed also to make our witnessing effective. Wisdom enables us to present the truth in kindness; it causes us to stop when we've said enough. Wisdom causes us to hold our tongues and wait on the Lord for the proper

time to speak. If we don't allow the Holy Spirit to direct each move we make, and just let the chips fall where they may, the chips are about all we'll have left when we have finished hacking away.

"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy, and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." James 3:17. Godly wisdom is peace-loving, considerate and will listen to reason. It is full of mercy and compassion, impartial and sincere. The Apostle Paul taught all men in this kind of wisdom (see Col. 1:28). What was His purpose? To present every man perfect (or complete) in Christ. Paul loved those he ministered to, and he knew he should not hack away at them. Wise and loving instruction was needed instead.

"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law." (from Rom. 13:9-10). Whether you witness, or do an act of kindness, it should be because you love, freely and without strings attached. You shouldn't try to use love like a bait, to "catch" another soul to your credit, or so you can chalk up another "plus" on your blackboard of good deeds. God loves us, He gave us Christ because of that love. Not a one of us deserves His love or the mercy He gives. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Matt. 10:8b.

When we share Christ with others, we should follow God's pattern of loving, and giving with mercy. It is not enough to just "dish out" the truth that all are sinners; we need to "serve" the truth in love. Love, genuine compassion, concern for souls which can be felt, plus a clear Christian witness will help bring souls to Christ. When you have loved the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and your neighbor as yourself, then and only then have you loved enough.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

HEY PASTOR, HOW BIG IS YOUR CHURCH?

by Robert W. Baker

God must love small churches; there are so many of them.

God had better love small churches, for it seems very few others do.

As I understand it, many view the small church as a way station on the road to becoming a great church. Everyone knows God loves great churches. In a day when church growth is the watchword, if a small church doesn't grow (given sufficient time) it may be judged a "goner".

Let me reveal my bias, if I haven't done so already. I'm the pastor of a small church and I come from a short line of small churches. I have never been a member of nor served a large church. That's not sour grapes, just some sweet and sour reality.

I'd hate to have to count how many times I've been asked, "How big is your church?" I hate having to listen, when I've answered, to the stock response (pastor of small churches can supply the tone of voice): "Oh!?" I find myself trying to defend what I believe is the truth - that size is not what churches are all about. Size - small, that is - is often considered weakness. But is it?

Granted, the small church finds it nearly impossible to involve itself in multiple ministries. It can't offer the wide opportunities, the diversified functions, the super-programming of a large church. But, it can do one thing as well as, maybe better than, a larger church. In line with John 17, it can serve as a visual display of the love of God on a scale people can get hold of. Jesus said that when the world saw that believers were one (a great description of love lived), two things would happen. One, unbelievers would know that God sent Jesus. Two, these same folk would believe that God loved them.

Bigness, success, greatness won't of necessity show this. In fact, they could change the focus of the beholder from visible love to visible success. People begin to comprehend love when they see it worked out in the intimacy of people relationships. This is where the small church should excel. This is where it can be a test tube that people can hold up to view.

Does this mean that large churches can't do the same? Of course not! All any church has to do to catch the glory of the small church is to hold onto the intimacy of right people relationships.

One more thing about small churches. Some recruiters of missionaries like to use the illustration of ten men carrying a log - nine men on one end and one on the other. Nine Christians staying at home; only one going overseas where the needs are so great. But does that only apply overseas? It must. I don't see people rushing down to help on our end of the log. What I do see is a lot of people drifting to the end where the nine are already hefting the weight.

What pastor of a small church has not been told by a departee, "We're leaving because you're just too small"? Too small to do what? To entertain, to be a provider of programs, to serve as a hiding place from action or commitment? Too small to live out God's love so people can see? Of course, if any church fails there, fails to live out God's love, its very existence ought to be questioned. Meanwhile, I'm left asking (often silently), "How does your leaving help us be anything but small?"

In such a mood, I salute all the great small churches. And all their pastors. May they never be satisfied being small. May they never be ground down still smaller by the guilt of unrealized size. May they never stop loving.

Selected from World Vision
by Sister Edith Moss

"FOLLOW ME"

These were the words of our Master when He called or chose the twelve Apostles, "Follow Me." In order to follow Jesus we must deny self and be willing to forsake all. If we are willing then, and then alone, can we become His followers and soul winners for Christ.

Jesus faced the cross and endured the suffering. None of us ever can comprehend the great suffering He endured to save my soul and yours. I am many times made to wonder if any of us would be willing to go through that suffering to save even one soul for Christ. It took alot of suffering to redeem our souls. Are we willing to suffer for Him? We, today, should be ever so willing to live for Him.

Let us every one come daily to the Throne of Grace to get renewed strength so we won't fall along the way. Day by day we need to draw closer to His bleeding side. He is always ready and willing to hear from His dear ones. Do we daily commune with him or only when we find a need? Let us each search our lives and try day by day to come closer to Him, for He is a true and honest Friend. How many can we trust in this world, we are living in? We know if we put our trust in Him every day, He will see us through all the trials and cares of our daily life.

We are told to seek and we would find, knock and it would be opened unto us. "For every one that asketh receiveth, If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him." If you are His child you'll need that strength from Above each day. Let us seek the Lord while He may be found. There will come a time in each of our lives, when we won't have any time left. That will be a very sad day.

Job went through a lot of suffering for the Lord. If he did not know something he wanted to know, he searched till he found it. Jesus loved the poor. Do we love the poor around us? If we find they are in need, do we help them? Many of us may be poor but if we are followers of Christ we will be rich Over There. So many today don't love the Lord. Are we a stumbling block? Do we stand

in the way or are we willing to see that they too have a Home in Heaven?

The "Stairway" rises Heaven High.
The steps are dark and steep.
In weariness we climb them
As we stumble, fall and weep,
And many times we falter
Along the path of prayer
Wondering if You hear us
And if you really care.
Oh, give us some assurance
Restore our faith anew
So we can keep climbing
The Stairs of Prayer to you —
For we are weak and wavering
Uncertain and unsure,
And only meeting you in prayer
Can help us to endure,
All life's trials and trouble
Its sickness, pain and sorrow,
And give us Lord the strength and courage
To face all our needs and tomorrow.

Sister E. M. Alltus

PRAYER AND THE COMING ELECTION

That nation which loses its sense of values and sets its focus on gold, silver, stocks, bonds, houses, lands, property and pleasure needs prayer.

That nation in which laws are flagrantly broken, crime is winked at, justice is scorned, riots, drunkenness, pornography, dope and immorality are tolerated needs prayer. And to pray is exactly what every Christian is exhorted to do. Supplication, prayers and intercession are to be made for all in authority (I Tim. 2:1-2). It is doubtful that America has ever stood in more need of prayer for those in places of political leadership than today.

Let us not be like Israel of old. She prayerlessly chose Saul to be her first king on the basis of externals. He looked good. He appeared to have the qualifications. But he failed miserably. He was not God's choice. The child of God ought to seek the mind of Him whose choices are not made on the low level of outward appearance, but on the rightness of heart.

There is plenty of evidence in the Bible that God responds to the earnest prayers of His People with regard to national interests. He

has His own sovereign ways of raising up and setting aside rulers.

God was quite ready to hear Abraham's prayers for wicked Sodom and Gomorrah. He is no less ready to hear our prayers for America.

Consider the impact of Daniel's prayer life on the godless rulers of the great Babylonian Empire. God's man of prayer was the instrument through which Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar learned that God rules in the kingdom of men and "giveth it to whomsoever He wills" (Daniel 4:25).

Think of the effectiveness of Nehemiah's prayers in the restoring of a defeated, scattered and decadent nation. Basic to Nehemiah's courageous leadership and hard work was continual prayer.

Take a second look at Mordecai and Queen Esther. The doom of Israel had been sealed by Haman's plot and signed by the king. But prayer reversed the whole situation (Esther 4:15-17). Surely God is ready to hear the desperate cries of His children for America today.

And how do you pray for the coming election? Ask God to put in authority men who will allow us to live peaceable, godly and honest lives. Ask God for rulers who will in no way hinder the proclamation of the Gospel in this country or other countries.

Pray for America. Pray in the assurance that He will answer. "If my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins, and will heal their land." (I Chron. 7:14).

Selected by Brother Ray L. Stuber

NEWS ITEMS

MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The Mechanicsburg Congregation enjoyed another revival from June 13 to 22, 1980. Many of us entered the meetings with mixed emotions for we were disappointed to hear that our evangelist, Brother D. Paul Reed had been stricken ill and could not be with us. But on the other hand our hearts were warmed by the willingness and efforts that were put forth by Brethren Kenneth Wolfe, David Kegerreis, Virgil Leatherman, Joseph Flora and Jack Snyder. We praise God for the Lord's presence in these services and for new spiritual ground gained. Please join us in prayer for those who should have yielded to the Lord but who refused. May we keep faithful until Jesus comes.

Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.

QUINTER, KANSAS

We have just finished a week of meetings with Bro. Dennis St. John as our evangelist. Though young in years, he preached with sincerity the Gospel messages we needed.

We were grateful for all the visitors and especially for the ministerial help during Love Feast services.

We feel encouraged to press on with a greater determination to live such lives as please our Lord. May we all continue faithful until Jesus comes.

Our hearts were saddened as the Lord saw fit to remove one from our midst to be with Him.

Sister Ethel Whitmer, Cor.

TORREON NAVAJO MISSION
CUBA, NEW MEXICO

The evening of August 30 we had a warm experience at the Mission. We surrounded the Lord's tables — Navajos and Anglos — and had a Lovefeast Service.

There were ten Sisters and seven Brethren at the tables. Bro. Herbert interpreted the examination service and Bro. Frank the communion service. This was the first time Bro. Steven Trujillo communed and it was a blessing to have him there.

Bro. David Skiles officiated. The onlookers were quiet and observant. We left the tables rejoicing. My thought at this time was — how many more times will we, as Christians, get to participate in a Lovefeast Service. "... then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

Sister Mildred Skiles

OBITUARY

DEEANN ROOT

DeeAnn Yvonne Root was born October 16, 1942 and departed this life for her eternal home August 22, 1980, near Leoti, Kansas, from fatal injuries received in an automobile accident, at the age of 37 years.

DeeAnn is survived by her parents, Don and Esther Root, McClave, Colorado, one brother and nephews and nieces and a host of other relatives and friends.

In 1975 DeeAnn moved to Quinter, Kansas and worked for Flex-King Corporation until her death.

She was baptized into the Cloverleaf Dunkard Brethren Church at the age of seventeen years and faithfully served her Lord until her death.

She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks, and deep appreciation, for all the sympathy cards and letters of love and prayers for us shown over the Brotherhood at the loss of our beloved daughter and sister, DeeAnn.

May God bless each one of you.

Don and Sister Esther Root,
Gary and Sue Root, Tim, Tracie,
Tonya and Shane

THE GREATEST OF ALL

My greatest loss — to lose my soul.
My greatest object — to glorify God.
My greatest prize — a crown of glory.
My greatest gain — Christ my Saviour.
My greatest work — to win souls for Christ.
My greatest joy — the joy of God's salvation.
My greatest inheritance — heaven and its glories.
My greatest victory — victory over death through Christ.
My greatest neglect — to neglect "so great salvation."
The greatest crime — to reject Christ, the only Saviour.
My greatest privilege — power to become a son of God.
The greatest bargain — the loss of all things that I might win Christ.
The greatest profit — godliness in this life and that which is to come.
My greatest peace — the peace that passes understanding.
The greatest knowledge — to know God in Jesus Christ, whom He has sent.

— Selected from Gospel Herald
by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

AN OPPORTUNITY LOST

It is said that an artist once gained permission to paint a portrait of the Queen. This was a great opportunity and would probably have made the man's fortune. A place was fixed and a time was set, and promptly the Queen appeared, but the artist was not there — he was not ready yet. When he did arrive, he was informed that her Majesty had departed and would not return. So, because he was not ready, he missed the opportunity of his lifetime.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR NOVEMBER, 1980

DEATH

Memory Verse: Ecc. 7:1
A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.
Sat. 1 - Ecc. 7:1-29

Memory Verse: Ecc. 8:8
There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it.
Sun. 2 - Ecc. 8:1-17
Mon. 3 - Isa. 9:1-21
Tues. 4 - Isa. 25:1-12
Wed. 5 - Isa. 28:1-29
Thur. 6 - Isa. 38:1-22
Fri. 7 - Isa. 53:1-12
Sat. 8 - Jer. 2:1-18

Memory Verse: Isa. 9:2
The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.
Sun. 9 - Jer. 2:19-37
Mon. 10 - Jer. 8:1-22
Tues. 11 - Jer. 9:1-26
Wed. 12 - Jer. 13:1-27
Thur. 13 - Jer. 15:1-21
Fri. 14 - Jer. 18:1-23
Sat. 15 - Jer. 21:1-14

Memory Verse: Isa. 25:8
He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the Lord hath spoken it.
Sun. 16 - Jer. 43:1-13
Mon. 17 - Lam. 1:1-22
Tues. 18 - Eze. 18:1-18
Wed. 19 - Eze. 18:19-32
Thur. 20 - Eze. 33:1-16
Fri. 21 - Eze. 33:17-33
Sat. 22 - Hosea 13:1-16

Memory Verse: Deut. 8:10
When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.
Sun. 23 - Amos 5:1-27
Mon. 24 - Jonah 4:1-11
Tues. 25 - Math. 4:1-25
Wed. 26 - Math. 10:1-20
Thur. 27 - Deut. 8:1-20
Fri. 28 - Math. 10:21-42
Sat. 29 - Math. 20:1-19

Memory Verse: Isa. 38:1
In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live.
Sun. 30 - Math. 26:1-19

Memory Verse: Jer. 21:8
And unto this people thou shalt say, Thus saith the Lord; Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death.
Eze. 18:32
For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII NOVEMBER 1, 1980 NO. 21

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

I WILL FOLLOW THEE

I will follow thee, my Saviour,
Where so e'er my lot may be;
Where thou goest I will follow,
Yes, my Lord, I'll follow thee.

Tho' the road be rough and thorny,
Trackless as the foaming sea.
Thou hast trod this way before me,
And I gladly follow thee.

Tho' 'tis lone, and dark, and dreary,
Cheerless tho' my path may be.
If thy voice I hear before me,
Fearlessly I'll follow thee.

Tho' I meet with tribulation,
Sorely tempted tho' I be.
I remember thou wast tempted,
And rejoice to follow thee.

Tho' thou leadest thro' afflictions,
Poor, forsaken tho' I be.
Thou wast destitude, afflicted,
And I only follow thee.

- James Lawson

STUMBLING

It is easy for us to stumble unless we are very wary. A raised place in the sidewalk, a misplaced object, or an unseen obstacle can cause us to fall down. A stumble can cause injury or it even could be fatal.

Various conditions can cause us to stumble and fall. Darkness is one common cause. Although we may be familiar with an area in the daylight, when that area is dark, there is a great danger we will stumble over some unseen object. What is so plain in the light can be a danger in the dark. Others are made to stumble by drunkenness. When the senses have been dulled or altered by alcohol or drugs, the feet do not follow the pathway. Because the perception is changed, a fall may happen very easily. The sober person will not stumble over the objects that will so easily cause the drunken to fall. Others may be tripped by another. An enemy may intentionally trip another. The one doing the tripping may not always be an enemy but a friend who unintentionally may cause another to fall.

Stumbling is not only a danger in our natural lives but also in the Spiritual. While we journey along the Christian pathway, there is an ever present danger of stumbling and falling. A fall is very dangerous in our eternal Spiritual life. The danger of stumbling Spiritually is of much greater importance than our natural falls.

Spiritual stumbling can take many forms. The cause of the stumble can vary from person to person. One person may stumble becaue of physical lusts, another may stumble because of pride — even pride of righteous living — another may stumble because of discouragement, yet another may stumble because he does not see the wisdom of submitting to the Church. These and many

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other causes are ever lurking to catch the Christian in a weak moment and make him stumble.

Although the Christian has been forgiven of his sins, the old man of darkness will rear up and cause him to stumble. Some pleasure of the past will become a draw to the old life of sin. The sights and temptations ever present in the world about us may allure and cause us to stumble if we are not prayerfully careful. Although the Christian is not tempted by the drinks and drugs that ruin rational thought and behaviour, there is a danger that an over-emotionalsim and mysticism may also lead to a kind of Spiritual drunkenness.

Of course, the Christian has an enemy who is doing all that he can to trip him. Satan wants the Christian to stumble. He wants the Christian to doubt God and His Word and to return to the pleasures of the old man of sin. Satan and his followers in the world will use many devices, both open and subtle, to bring the Christian down. He truly is an enemy, for though he would promise much, he will give nothing but misery and hatred to the one he succeeds in tripping.

The unkindest stumble is the unexpected and unnecessary one caused by a fellow Christian, because of carelessness. Each Christian is his Brother's keeper. The strong are especially responsible for the weaker members. When the weaker see the stronger members do those things that are wrong, they are emboldened to do the same things. The stronger may be able to handle these things without being harmed but the weaker may be hurt. They stumble. Their souls may hang in the balance because a friend tripped them along the way.

Chrisitans may also trip those who are outside the Church. Their activities or attitudes may be a barrier that causes the one in the world to remain in the world rather than come to Jesus. This is a very dangerous stumble because that soul may be lost forever because of a Christian's carelessness.

One cause for stumbling among Christians is the desire for an individualism in their Christian walk of life. They do not want to be told by anyone how they should live. They do not want the Church to lay down any rules to restrict their lives, for they feel able to care for themselves. This individualism leads to many stumbles and even fatal falls, since the collective wisdom and experience of the Church is ignored in favor of personal feelings. Each Christian needs all the help available to avoid and overcome the stumbles that are ever lurking along his pathway.

Other helps in avoiding stumbles are prayer, Bible reading and study, frequent fellowship with fellow Christians, helping others and a determination to avoid all the stumbles possible.

There will be stumbles; especially for the new Christian. But they need not be serious, prolonged or fatal. Let us each walk so we will cause no other to stumble, then we too will not stumble.

1980 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from October 15, 1980 Issue

Second Speaker: Elder Eugene Kauffman. Christ and the Church. Ephesians 5:25-33.

We all have had dreams about what we wanted out of life. But there is not room in our lives for these materialistic things and the things Christ would have us do for Him and His Church. Our dreams should be of what we would want our Church to be. If these dreams come true, the world would take note of our Church as being a great Church.

The Church is more than bricks and stone. They are just a meeting place for the Church. Churches are made of human beings. Jesus Christ should be the cornerstone and foundation. Each building was first conceived in someone's heart. If the Church we dream of is foremost in our minds it will come to pass.

The dream comes first but hard work comes next. It needs the united effort of all. We should have a personal concern for our Church. What is our answer when confronted with questions regarding our practices? Is it because we love our Church, rather than just because the Church requires it?

A necessity for a growing Church is a united Church. A divided house can not stand, Jesus said. We must stand as one. A sports team depends upon the players all working together. An army must be united to win over the enemy.

If the Church were united, new areas would be conquered for Christ. There would be more won into the Church if there were greater union in the Church. We must be united in following the commands of Jesus Christ. No one wants to join a Church that demonstrates division within. The united purpose of the Church is to make Jesus Christ known in the world around us. All of our efforts should be to this end. Let us attempt to put aside the prejudice, the indifferences and the jealousy among us that hinders the power of God. As a united body we should be under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

The Church should be well-attended. God knew that we were going to need a place to meet for inspiration and fellowship to help us in our Spiritual needs. God always meets man's needs, so He planned the Church. We must avail ourselves of the privilege. No one has ever been hurt by going to Church but millions have been

helped. If not at Church you will miss out on several things. The Church has the highest of ideals. We will miss out on things in the Bible if not at Church. We must attend to know the progress made in God's Kingdom. The place to hear the Gospel is in the Church. The Church is a service department for our souls. Service necessary for vehicles and needed by souls as well. Our souls need the regular service provided by regular Church attendance. There are joys and blessings in serving in the work of the Church.

How hard do we try to attend Church. Couples who attend Church services regularly are seldom separated by the devil. The Church is the place for people to find answers to their problems in life.

The Church should be the place where the ministry is helpful. It should be a friendly Church. This attracts the people. This gives us the opportunity to help those who will be lost otherwise.

The Church should be a loving Church. Love was the distinguishing feature of the New Testament Church. Is love always evident amongst the members of our congregations? Do we have the same love as Jesus had for us. One reason we don't love each other is that we don't love each other as we should. Close association is one of the necessary ingredients for love. There should be a love for the lost. There needs to be demonstration of love first. We must love for His sake. Also need a love for the fallen. Should be a love that prompts us to help that one.

To be continued

OUR CREED: THE NEW TESTAMENT

Various religious groups and denominations throughout the eras of time up until the present day have put much emphasis on the need of a creed. The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" and means "I believe." The more popular creeds used have the names; the Apostles Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Chalcedonian Creed, the Athanasian Creed, the Augsburg Confession, the Swiss or Zwinglian Confession, and the Westminster Confession.

In contrast to these groups, the "Brethren" from their inception have declared that "We have no creed but the New Testament." This did not mean, however, as some would have you to believe, that the "Brethren" had no set convictions. What it did mean was that anything they practiced could be found in the New Testament. Such cardinal doctrines as the virgin birth, salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ, the humanity and deity of Jesus Christ, and the Trinity were not open for discussion. They also recognized the whole Bible as the Word of God. They correctly taught that the

Old Testament must be understood in light of the New and not vice versa. We feel the same "rule" should apply today.

They accepted without qualification the bodily resurrection, the ascension, and the literal return of Jesus Christ. But to the "Brethren" these beliefs were MORE than a creed. These were more than statements you mouthed on Sunday morning. They were deeply seated personal convictions. Because of their deep loyalty to the teachings of the New Testament they also adopted such teachings as nonresistance, nonconformity to the "world", the prayer veil, washing of the Saints' feet, and the love feast. We feel that those "Brethren" groups who have given up some of these practices have forsaken "no creed but the New Testament" and have adopted a "creed type" of worship in its place.

We feel it is important that we take heed to Paul's admonition in Ephesians 4:14 "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive." The creeds of themselves, for the most part, contain scriptural truths. But if these truths are only spoken by the mouth and not felt by the heart they are worthless. Also where creeds are used, unscriptural practices are most times taught by the leaders. The "creed mentality" is also expressed in such ways as group prayers of confession. We feel the only acceptable group prayer is "the Lord's Prayer." All other prayers of confession should be prayed from the heart by individuals.

It is our conviction that a conviction can only be worthwhile if it is a personal thing. To try to convince government or an unregenerate society to accept such teachings as nonresistance is to make it nothing more than a creed. The New Testament practices peculiar to the "Brethren" and a few other groups must become more than a creed to those who practice them. They must become personal convictions.

May it be our desire to follow Jesus Christ and His teachings as given throughout the New Testament and to truly love God with all our heart, soul, and mind, as we love our neighbor as ourselves. May we follow His teachings not because "the church says so," but because we wish to be obedient in all areas of our lives.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, Pa. 17078

"I can forgive, but I cannot forget," is only another way of saying, "I will not forgive." — Forgiveness ought to be like a canceled note — torn in two, and burned up, so that it never can be shown against one. — H. W. Beecher.

THE UNTOUCHABLES

A minister was talking about the gap between the ministers and laity. At one home, he had been greeted by three sparkling clean children, obviously ready for bed. One little boy greeted him with these words, "I just washed my hands so I could shake hands with you tonight." The ministers heart went out to the boy, because he wasn't an untouchable. Yet the boy apparently had the impression that if he had a speck of dirt anywhere, he couldn't touch the minister. Such a feeling makes a barrier, one that prevents mutual love and help.

Are you touchable? Or do you give people the impression that you are "too good" to be touched, too good to stoop to help another? Sometimes we must get our hands dirty in order to help someone. Are you willing to get involved, even though it includes some unpleasant tasks? The lepers had to keep their distance and cry out, "Unclean, unclean" so no one would touch them. How often do you treat those around you as though they had leprosy?

Ministers sometimes act as though they are the elite — untouchable, a little more holy than other people. Church members in general sometimes act as though they are better than others, especially unbelievers. The reality is, whatever we are, if we belong to Christ, He made us thus. We are all human, subject to error and in need of much. To think otherwise is to think as the Pharisees did. They were perfect, they thought, and wouldn't stoop to help anyone. Will you?

"For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch." Mark 13:34. All of us have a job to do. It's not for just a select few. All of us should be available, first to the Lord, and second, to those around us who may need us. Ministers should do what they can to help the laity and unbelievers, and the laity should help also where needed. The little boy had a poor impression of what a minister is, and people often have a poor impression of what a Christian is. We are all servants, fellow-brethren in Christ.

Jesus was available to those who needed Him. And He touched people, some of them of very questionable character. His touch always brought healing of mind, body or spirit, whatever the need was. Lepers had to live alone; to touch one was unthinkable, but Jesus did (see Matt. 8:3). When multitudes followed Him, people sought to at least touch His garments to receive healing (Matt. 14:35-36). Apparently Jesus believed that personal contact was vital, even if it meant getting His hands dirty. (See healing of blind man, John 9:6).

"But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." Matt. 9:36. Jesus' heart was touched also, not just His garments. He really cared about the needs of all these people. We can't care for the multitudes as Jesus

did, but He does expect us to be moved with compassion and do what we can to help others.

"For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye cme unto me." Matt. 25:35-36. In order to help someone, you must care enough to do something about it. You can't be an untouchable, as the priest and Levite were (see Luke 10:23-37), and help anyone. Passing by on the other side is unkind and a sure sign that you are not moved with any compassion.

Jesus said, "Whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all." Mark 10:44. Paul called himself a servant of others for Jesus' sake (II Cor. 4:5). Whether you are a minister, a teacher, or someone with more limited talent, Jesus expects you to get involved and be a servant. There is something you can do, if you will and if you care. Be a touchable — let your heart get involved too! "With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men." Eph. 6:7.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

I have been challenged by a question asked recently. The question, "I married a divorced woman and did not know it was wrong. When I realized I should not have married her, I divorced her. Now, I wonder if I can marry a widow or a young maiden? I want a Biblical answer."

The Pharisees asked Jesus, "Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife?" Jesus answered, "What did Moses command you? and they said, Moses suffered to write a bill of divorcement, and to put her away. And Jesus answered and said unto them, For the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept. But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. And in the house his disciples asked Him again of the same matter and he saith to them, Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultry against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultry." Mark 10:2-12.

I turned in the Old Testament to Deuteronomy 24 to see what Moses commanded. "When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleaness in her: let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house. And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and

be another man's wife. Now if the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife; her former husband, which sent her away may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the Lord..." Deut. 24:1-4.

In the New Testament, in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: but I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultry: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery." Matt. 5:31-32.

This does give a reason for divorce, but it does not give a right to marry again. Romans 7:2-3 says, "For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man."

When the woman, taken in adultery, was brought to Jesus he told her accusers that he who was without sin among them was to cast the first stone at her. They were convicted by their own conscience, and went out one by one, till Jesus was left alone with the woman. Jesus asked her, Woman, where are thine accusers? Hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee, Go and sin no more. John 8:3-11.

The questioner at the beginning asked, "Can I be forgiven for the sin of adultery?" Yes, you can be forgiven for that sin, but the complete answer is, "Go and sin no more."

We read in I Thess. 4:3-5, "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye abstain from fornication: that every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God." "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid, How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" Rom. 6:1-2.

In I Cor. 7:10-11, The Apostle Paul says, "And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: But, and if she depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife."

This is the Biblical answer to the question of divorce and remarriage.

Sister Edyth Kline

FASTING

Fasting is a Bible teaching that is minimally understood by many conservative Christians today. We should understand it as self-denial and wholly spiritual, which it is. The saints of the Old Testament fasted regularly, as did the Apostles and Jesus Himself.

In Matthew 6:1-18, Jesus talks of three aspects of Christian behaviour. Almsgiving is a requirement, as is prayer. The third area is fasting. Jesus said, "When you fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward." We fast when we abstain from food on religious grounds. This is not a hunger strike or an attention attracting act.

In Leviticus we read: "and this shall be a statute for ever unto you, that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all." Here the word "fast" was not used, instead the phrase "afflict your souls" was used. If we do this we humble ourselves in the presence of God and are abased. In James 4:8-10 we are instructed to "Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you... be afflicted, and mourn and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

David communicates that he fasted in Psalm 109:24 and Esther and Mordecai fasted as recorded in Esther 4:16. Jesus fasted just before His ministry began.

Self denial is important to us because it is a Christian character building act. As we deny ourselves we become less important in our own eyes and we grow in the awareness of the glorious sovereignty of God. No Christian can become victorious and useful if he ignores personal discipline.

Usually, a fast will mean missing three meals in a day. Although we find fasting by Moses on Mount Sinai without water and the same with Ezra, Esther, Mordecai, and Paul (Acts 9:9), fluids may be taken during a fasting if necessary.

Why do we fast? The Children of Israel did it to avert God's wrath. Similarly, fasting is done by a person after falling in sin — in order to re-discover God's pardon. Penitence is an important ingredient of Biblical fasting, so it is natural for Christians to seek God in self-denial if they become aware of the real need of divine pardon. When fasting takes its proper place in our lives, it aids in the mortification of the old man and is invigorating to the New Man in Christ Jesus.

Another reason for fasting is the desire for special help from God. When combined with prayer and a contrite heart we prepare

ourselves for His special blessing. We are promised reward for obedience.

We need to remember that any blessing bestowed by the Father upon His undeserving children is an act of grace. We fail to appreciate the mercy of the Lord when we think that by our fasting we have coerced God into granting the blessing for which we have asked.

When the early people fasted they clothed themselves in sackcloth. Today we are to have no outward appearance of the activity.

In any crisis, personal or in the Body of Christ (Church), fasting and special prayer are important ingredients in handling the problem.

Remember, this is a private communication with the Lord and becoming proud of the act will make it hypocritical. It should not become ritualistic or routine in nature.

Let us consider this often neglected discipline in our Christian life. We must ever walk closer to the Lord in these last days before His return and present our bodies a living sacrifice acceptable for His service.

Brother Leonard Wertz

DOES JESUS PLAN OUR LIVES?

I am sure that when each of us comes into this world Jesus has a plan for our life. It is up to each one to find that plan and follow it. As we grow up and attend Church each Lord's Day, we learn about Jesus, who was willing to give His life for everyone so he could come to Him and be willing to serve and work for Him. It is up to each one how he lives and if he is willing to find the plan He has for his life while living here. If we are willing, we will accept the Lord and be baptized and start on that road that leads from Earth to Heaven. The Bible says, "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth." If we are willing to do this, Satan won't have such a hold on us. When Christ calls you, don't put it off from day to day. Let us be willing to come out on the Lord's side and live the rest of our days in His service, bringing others into the fold of Jesus Christ.

I am sure this will be a rewarding life not just here below but will give us a Home with all the redeemed in Heaven when our life's work here has closed. Dear ones, don't you feel this is worth all the trials and temptations we go through here? Some days won't be easy. We will meet with lots of trials and hardships, but we can come to Him in prayer and ask Him for help and He will help us bear all our burdens. He has promised never to leave or forsake us. What a wonderful Saviour we have. He is always near to protect and guide us.

We read in Proverbs 3:6, "In all ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." But we must be living for Him and serving Him with our whole heart. God had a plan for Jesus' life and Jesus followed that plan all the way. Are we willing to follow the plan for our lives unto the end? If not, why not? Every one has a work to do. Christ needs workers. The harvest is ripe ready to harvest. Are we willing to do our part to harvest the golden sheaves for His kingdom? Dear ones, who have not started on this new life, won't you start today?

Every one of us has a work to do. No one can take your place with Jesus. When the Apostle Paul found Jesus and the plan He had for his life, he started at once on that mission and followed the plan the Lord had for him until the end. What a wonderful life of service to the Master. He glorified Him here on earth. When his pilgrim journey here came to a close, he was ready to go. The time of his departure was at hand. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the Faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

Paul was never idle. He was always working to help others to find the joy he received daily in the service of the Master. To Paul, I believe, the Christian life was a race and the prize, the crown of everlasting life. He was in a spirit of great earnestness not only for himself but for others. Through him and thousands who have been influenced by him, Christianity grew. We read where many came to know Jesus as their Saviour and Lord through his wonderful works. I think we truly can say, with the exception of our Lord and our Saviour, no one has done so much good in the world as Paul. He was earnest. He loved every one and above all the Lord and Saviour. He was a patient man, self-sacrificing, and always steadfast in the true faith.

We all must be submissive to His will and the plan He has for us to follow. Christ came not to do His own will but the will of Him that sent Him. We must not want to do our will but Christ's will. Put your life in Christ's hands and He will direct you in all you do and say, while you are here. When we come to the end, He will take us to our Home above. If you are worried and don't know what to do, talk it over with Jesus. There is only one place and Friend to go to and that is Jesus. He is never too busy; He will always be there, when you seek Him at the Altar of Prayer.

Sister E. M. Alltus

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The narrow soul knows not the godlike glory of forgiving.
— Rowe.

THE LARGE CUP

I lifted up my Cup Lord,
I held it very high.
You didn't fill my Cup Lord,
I knew that you were nigh.
Please Lord, Tell my why.

My child, I did not see your cup
As you held it high.
But you need a lesson, Dear!
I knew you felt Me very near
But I had to pass you by.

My child you must be greedy,
Why was your cup so large?
Why did you want so much
When others are so needy?

Do you not know about the manna?
How I fed my children at dawn of each day,
Enough to help them travel
All along the wilderness way.

One glance into the cup you held —
Told you weren't ready for an over-running cup.
I saw within so much that gave me pain.
It was not really empty, tho it seemeth so to you.
There was some envy there — some ego
And some careless, ugly habits too.

So go upon your knees, my child
And pray and rid yourself of these.
Let your heart be cleansed and full of love,
Then you will be ready for my blessing
And have my peace from Above.

Oh Lord! I did as thus you said
And I felt your annointing upon my head.
Once more I held my cup up high
Oh, Thank you Lord! You did not pass me by.

My cup was full and running over
It held forgiveness, love, peace and joy
It seemed enough to last for evermore.
But Lord, so much I care
This cup, with all I meet I'll share.

When it's empty, I know to You I can return.
Oh! What a lesson I had to learn.
Thank you, Lord, for helping me see
The blessings you put in the cup for me.

- Ruth Spotts
Brethren Home, Greenville, Ohio

OBITUARY

VIOLA MOSS

Viola Hazel Moss died September 24, 1980 at the Rest Haven Nursing Home, Greenville, Ohio, where she had been a patient since August 30. She had been in failing health for the past year.

A native of Kansas, she was born February 28, 1891, the daughter of the late James and Nora (Baker) Miller. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Henry Weaver in 1933 and her late husband Loring Moss in 1963, whom she married in 1945. Prior to moving to Darke County, Ohio, she had lived in Missouri and Colorado. She was a member of the Conservative German Baptist Brethren Church, New Madison.

Survivors include twin sons, Delbert Weaver, New Madison, Ohio and Albert Weaver, Bernville, Pennsylvania; four daughters, Hazel Weaver, Greenville, Ohio; Mrs. George (Charlotte) Frick, New Madison, Ohio; Mrs. Lloyd (Ida) Keeny, and Mrs. Ray (Arvilla) Keeny, New Freedom, Pennsylvania; two step sons, Aaron Moss, Springfield, Missouri and David Moss, West Covina, California; three step daughters, Mrs. Reuben (Mable) Rupp, Bryan, Ohio; Mrs. Charlie (Mary) Jamison, Arcanum, Ohio and Elma Moss, Greenville, Ohio; twenty-five grandchildren, twenty-eight step-grandchildren; sixteen great grandchildren; fifty-eight step-grandchildren and one brother, Guy Miller, Fort Lyons, Colorado.

Services were held September 27, 1980 at the Storch-Braund Funeral Home at New Madison with Brethren Dale Keeny, Owen Stout and Kenneth Martin officiating. Burial was in Wares Chapel Cemetery at West Manchester.

Texts used were Psalms 116, II Corinthians 5 and II Timothy 4:6-8. Hymns were "Walking with Jesus," "Meet Me In Heaven," "There is a Rest for the Faithful and Pure," and at the grave "It Is Not Death to Die."

DEATH OF A MOTHER

The bosom where I oft have lain
And slept my infant hours away
Will never beat for me again;
'Tis still in death! 'Tis lifeless clay!

How many were the silent prayers
My mother offered up for me!
How many were the bitter cares
She felt when none but God could see!

Oft let me think of all she said
And all the kind advice she gave,

And let me do it, now she's dead
And sleeping in her lowly grave.

And let me choose the path she chose,
And her I soon again may see
Beyond this world of sin and woes,
With Jesus in eternity.

MARRIAGE

GUNDERMAN - ST. JOHN

Sister Susan Gunderman, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Reinhold Gunderman, Goshen, Indiana and Bro. Thomas St. John, son of Bro. and Sis. Edwin St. John, Alvordton, Ohio were united in marriage September 20, 1980 at the Goshen Dunkard Brethren Church. Bro. Dennis St. John performed the marriage ceremony. The couple are at home at Rt. 1, Box 51, Alvordton, Ohio.

NEWS ITEM

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation (the Lord willing) will hold their Lovefeast services November 29 and 30.

Services begin at 11 o'clock Saturday forenoon and 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon with the Communion service Saturday evening.

Come enjoy these services with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhen, Cor.

JUST A MINUTE

I have only just a minute,
And sixty seconds in it,
Forced upon me,
Can't refuse it,
Didn't seek it,
Didn't choose it,
I must suffer if I lose it,
Just a tiny little minute,
But Eternity is in it.

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Paul R. Myers
Box 117
Greentown, OH 44630

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

FACE TO FACE

Face to face with Christ, my Savior,
Face to face — what will it be?
When with rapture I behold Him,
Jesus Christ who died for me.

Only faintly now, I see Him,
With the darkling veil between,
But a blessed day is coming,
When His glory shall be seen.

What rejoicing in His presence,
When are banished grief and pain;
When the crooked ways are straightened,
And the dark things shall be plain.

Face to face! O blissful moment!
Face to face — to see and know;
Face to face with my Redeemer,
Jesus Christ who loves me so.

- Mrs. Frank A. Breck

THANKSGIVING IN HEAVEN

Each year we set aside a special day to give thanks for God's benefits to us. While it is fitting to have such a day as a special reminder of God's goodness to us, it is better to give thanks every day. If His blessings were meted out to us according to our degree of thankfulness, would we be as well favored as we are?

It would be impossible to count all the blessings He has given us. As many and as great as these gifts from Above are, they will pale into insignificance compared to the blessings of Heaven. There we will continuously worship God, which will include thanksgiving.

There are many things that we do not understand here, but in Heaven our minds will be perfect. There we can understand the purpose and will of God, which will cause us to be thankful for what God has provided for us in Heaven and on the Earth. Over There, there will be many tremendous things for us to thank God for, that today are not reality for us.

In Heaven, we will be thankful for our victory over death. Today, death holds many fears for us, because of its many unknown qualities. But in Heaven victory will be ours. Death will have been overcome. The fearsome vale will have been penetrated. Its supposed horrors will have been vanquished. The unbeliever's concept of death as a dark and foreboding entrance into something even worse for him is very true, but the Christian can look upon death as an entrance into the land of Glory. In looking back, the Christian will be thankful that he, through Christ, could overcome such a fearful enemy that turned out to be a doorway to real living.

THE BIBLE MONITOR NOVEMBER 15, 1980

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Another victory that will increase our thankfulness in Heaven will be our victory over Satan. This victory goes hand-in-hand with the victory over death. Death is Satan's greatest weapon. Satan is powerful but the Christian has, through Christ, more power. Satan is ever deceiving and tempting to sin but in Heaven there will be no sin. It will be a place far different than this present world, where nothing is perfect and even God's children slip and fall. Satan's power will be broken. There, those, whom he could not deceive and lead astray, will be joined in thankfulness for their victory, individual and collective, over this enemy of each soul.

A recognized part of life in this world is sickness and sorrow. In Heaven these will be vanquished. There we can be thankful not only for their absence from Heaven but also our victory over them in this life. The ailments of the body and the sorrows of the Spirit are here connected with death, but without death there will be no sickness nor sorrow in Heaven. The human body that fails and gradually decays will be replaced by a new body. In Heaven there will be many thanks offered for the lack of sickness and pain and suffering. The tears of sorrow will be replaced by the joys of thankfulness in Heaven.

There are innumerable divisions in this world. There are differences between nations. Families, friends and even spouses are divided. There are many different organizations which seek our allegiance. Even Churches and congregations are divided. Jesus said that His demands would bring division within families. In Heaven we can be thankful for the lack of division. There are hindrances to perfect fellowship here, but Over There it will be perfect.

Not only will we have perfect fellowship with one another in Heaven, but we will have perfect fellowship with God. There our knowledge of God will no longer be through faith. We will know the will of God in all things. We can be thankful that when we are no longer in total darkness of sin nor the relative darkness of faith, we will be in the full light of perfect knowledge and fellowship.

In looking back from Heaven to this life, we can be thankful for the effort that we put forth and for every help and encouragement that we received along the way. We will then be thankful that we were willing to strive to overcome the problems of this life in order to achieve the better life Beyond. We will recognize then that without the help of many other fellow Christians we could not have been successful. Our greatest helper will have been God, Himself. There will be much to be thankful for in Heaven when we look back to the Christian life we are living now.

With these few glimpses of what Heaven will mean to us in the future, we should be thankful for what we have available now so we can have this great thanksgiving in Heaven.

TRUE THANKSGIVING

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and bless his name." Psa. 100:4. True thanksgiving begins before God. Thanking Him should be your first thought in worship, in prayer, in everything. When you come before God, publicly or privately, He already knows whether you are thankful or not. Mere words will not impress God, so be sure your expressions of thanksgiving are sincere.

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Eph. 5:20. This verse says it all — the who, what and when of true thanksgiving. First, we are to give thanks. Thanks for what? All things! When are we to give thanks? Always, not just now and then. To whom do we give thanks? To God through Christ. Having a continually thankful heart may seem impossible, but thankfulness is a must in a Christian's life.

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6. We need to make thanksgiving a part of our prayers. A thankful attitude makes everything look brighter and go more smoothly. Worry and anxiety are a negative approach to whatever is bothering us, but being thankful changes that. Worry expects everything to go wrong; thankfulness expects everything to come out alright — because God is in control.

"Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me." John 11:41b. Jesus thanked God for hearing His prayer, and we should also. God has given us the privilege of praying to Him. We are to come boldly to the throne of grace (see Heb. 4:16), to seek for the help we need. The reason we have this privilege is because Christ is our High Priest. Jesus said if we ask in His name, He will do it. See John 14:13-14; 15:7, 16. Prayer is a privilege, but not without responsibility. Let us be very thankful for it and not take it for granted.

"But thanks be unto God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Cor. 15:57. There should be gratitude in our hearts first and foremost for Christ and the victory He gives us. It is only through Him that sin's power is broken and we are able then to serve God. If you are not thankful for Christ, then you do not know what He can do in your life.

"First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world." Rom. 1:8. Paul evidently was inspired by the faith of these Christians and he thanked God for it. A faithful Christian inspires others to have greater faith, and is a testimony to the unsaved of what Christ can

do for us. Our personal faith in Christ makes many blessings possible and we are certainly thankful for that. But let's be thankful also for the outstanding faith in others which reaches God and inspires our hearts.

"I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ." I Cor. 1:4. Grace is unmerited favor. God is not required to give us anything, but He gave (and still gives) because He loves us. We are thankful for our own salvation through Christ and we should be thankful for this grace given to others as well. We should be very thankful that God offers salvation to all who will receive it. If He had reserved it for just a select few, we might be the ones who were left out.

"And from thence, when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us... whom when Paul saw, thanked God and took courage." Acts 28:15. Paul was thankful for his Christian friends and for their coming to him at a time when his need was very great. They brought encouragement to him, and our Christian friends can encourage us also if we will share our needs with them. We should be thankful for our friends and our fellowship with them.

"The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God I thank thee, that I am not as other men are..." Luke 18:11a. This is not a prayer of thanksgiving; it is instead the expression of a very ungrateful heart. This man considered himself worthy of all he owned, as well as his social position. He had no need, he thought; he didn't want what God could give him and he certainly was not grateful for anything. A truly grateful heart recognizes God in all things. Are you grateful?

"He took the seven loaves, and gave thanks." Mark 8:6. Jesus expressed thanks for the food before feeding the multitude. This should remind us to give thanks, not only for our daily bread, but for everything. It can become a habit to say "thank you", so be careful. God supplies our spiritual and emotional needs as well as our physical ones. Don't take these supplies for granted. Instead, be truly thankful.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio

OUR THANKFUL FOREFATHERS AND MOTHERS

Many years ago, far from our land, many were hindered from religious worship, which they believed to be of truth and righteousness. They came to this American continent of freedom. After they came here, many suffered with severe hardships. They were not prepared for the cold winter and lacked food. Many of them suffered with sickness and death in this life. When spring came, the survivors labored and prepared for the future, the necessary things

of life. Through their labor, at the end of the summer they were blessed with a bountiful harvest. Through their thankful hearts a special day was proclaimed for thanksgiving to the Lord for their many blessings.

Are we as thankful as we should be for the many blessings the Lord has extended to us. We hear that in some countries they are lacking food and the other necessities of life. We have many things to be thankful for. Do we show by our words and deeds that we are thankful? Do we appreciate the greatest blessing of God, the words of eternal life. Are we following in the path of truth and righteousness that will prove we appreciate and are thankful for the great blessings of God?

The Psalmist David was filled with thanksgiving and praise to God. "Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most high." Ps. 50:14. That is what we need to spread the good news of God's Word unto others. "That I might publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works." Ps. 26:7. "I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord." Ps. 116:17. "And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing." Ps. 107:22.

Christ, our great example, gave thanks for the blessings of God to humanity. He gave thanks for the few small loaves and fishes and received enough to feed many thousand people. He gave thanks and blessed at the communion, the bread and the cup.

We are taught by example what is required of us. "Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light." Col. 1:12. We have many true examples in His Word. "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I Thess. 5:18. "Pray without ceasing." Be thankful always. "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving." Col. 4:2. We need to be prepared always. "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Depend upon him who will lead you into all truth.

Proof of being thankful to the Lord is manifested through words and deeds that are true unto Him. Those who do not accept the saving Gospel of Christ are not proving themselves unto Him, for the greatest blessings extended to us. May our lives be bright and shining lights in this dark and sinful world. Are we thankful for those who are throwing out the life line across the dark way of life?

True thanksgiving originates and lives in the minds and hearts of God fearing people. A falling away and departing from the path of truth and righteousness is contributing to the downfall of our

nation. As our true strength and shield is in the power of God we need to seek God's help and guidance to be strong in the Lord. We are told in His Word what happened to nations that turned away from and forgot God. Through evil and wickedness, cities met with desolation. Recently I have heard some people say this country is a in a worse condition than it ever was. We, as professing Christians, should turn to the high standard of Christianity exemplified by our faithful foreparents. We need the true Christian way of life. That will contribute to the good and strength of our nation.

We need to prove ourselves thankful for all blessings always. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Today we have the privilege of showing that we appreciate and are thankful for all the blessings of God including the words of life that will lead and guide us into the Great City of eternal life.

Brother J. F. Marks
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FAULTS

Genesis 11:9, "Then spake the chief butler unto Pharoah, saying, I do remember my faults this day." Psalms 19:12, "Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults."

I am sure we would not be human if we did not have some fault? We often have heard it said, "There is so much good in the worst of us, and so much bad in the best of us, that it little behooves any of us, to say anything about the rest of us." Jesus, our pattern of life, has commanded us to love our enemies and to pray for them. In Matthew, we read "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in Heaven..."

Matthew 7:1-3, "Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again, And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considereth not the beam that is in thine own eye?" Luke 6:41-42, "And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brothers eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Either how canst thou say to thy brother, Brother, let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye, when thou thyself beholdest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then thou shalt see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye."

Let us stop and think how they treated our blessed Lord. But He was willing to go to the old rugged cross and die for all of us. Are we, His followers, as willing to give our lives for the ones that find fault or say all kings of gossip about us? If we are, we have been born again and have gone with him all the way. Then I am sure the Dear Lord has a place for us in that Home above.

Sometimes this fault finding and gossiping is very destructive. Many times it drives some poor soul away from the Church and the Lord. I have never seen any good come from ruining someone's character. If you see someone with a fault, go to him alone. Don't tell him in front of others. Let us stop and see what fruit we are bearing.

Let each of us strive to see the good in people. Help pick up the weak and fallen. Let us show to everyone we truly are trying to live the Christ life. Then we will become a blessing to everyone. Let us each pray to God for His help and strength, so we will be able to stand when someone finds fault or gossips about us. Let us pray each day that we will grow into more useful lives for Christ and His Kingdom.

Sister E. M. Alltus

1980 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from November 1, 1980 Issue

Tuesday Morning Worship

Moderator: Elder Edward Johnson.

Chorister: Bro. Leonard Wertz.

Speaker: Elder David Ebling. I Samuel 15.

Saul was used by God when he was humble. But when pride entered in, he was no longer usable. He began to listen to the voice of the people rather than the Word of God. These failures on Saul's part are still dangers for us today. God prefers obedience to sacrifice. May we be usable by God.

Tuesday A.M.

Moderator: Bro. Eldon Mallow.

Chorister: Bro. John Meyers.

Opening: Bro. Alvin Chupp. Psalms 40:8.

In order to put into our lives the good teaching we have received we must apply it. We must delight in the Word of God. Prov. 16:3. We must commit our works and thoughts to God. Prov. 3:5. We must trust the Lord and His way rather than our own way. Phil. 3:14. We must press toward the goal individually. Rom. 10:4. The purpose of this is that people will be saved. I Tim. 2:4. Salvation not

only for ourselves but for others.

Adult Bible Study: Bro. John Carpenter. The Great Commission. Matt. 28:19-20.

Who is the "ye" in the commission? It was the Apostles then and us today. All nations includes missionary work near home as well as in far away places. Some must stay home to support those who do go. While all are not authorized to baptize, all can tell others that it is necessary. All can follow Jesus and be a missionary. "Go" is a commandment. The first priority is to teach the plan of salvation then to teach other things. Our teaching is not only in word but in our living.

Speaker: Bro. Carl Broadwater. What Time is it?

Men know and understand many things of science but God is the one who made the whole earth. His highest creation was man because he was created in His image. Of all His creation, it was only man into whom He breathed the breath of life. He gave Adam a help meet. When they listened to Satan they were driven from the Garden. Cain and Abel were born to them. Abel worked for God but Cain wanted to do it his own way, like many today. Seth later was born to work for God.

Noah preached to the people as he built the ark. They would not listen. Today most are the same way, they do not believe the Word of God. Rom. 13:12-14.

As the time becomes shorter, we can either blunder through life or follow the One who made it all. I Tim. 3:1-7. We should be preparing for the perilous times. It is high time to awake out of sleep. There is so much unholiness in the Church today. The Christian must turn away from the evils. These things tell us something about what time it is for the world.

Only through Christ can we have life and happiness. Will He find faith on the earth when He returns?

Closing: Bro. David Kegerreis.

The thought of the beginning of time is today a subject of controversary because even in the schools evolution is taught as a fact not a theory. We must stand firm upon the teaching of God's creation of the earth, man and time. Even the computers of today vouch for the truth of God's Word's description of the past. Because of the seriousness of the times we do not have promise of such a meeting next year. World events are rapidly moving toward the end. We must be sure to be faithful.

Tuesday P.M.

Moderator: Bro. Paul Hartz.

Chorister: Bro. Russel Berkenstock.

Opening: Bro. John Peffer. I Corinthians 13.

This chapter can be used as an examination of our love. This love goes beyond the call of duty. This was exemplified by Jonathan. The idols of the old life have to be torn from the heart so this love can abide there. Hatred cannot exist if this love is present. Are we willing to give our all because of our love? Are we willing to forgive and forget?

First Speaker: Bro. Merle Swihart. The "Lord".

What does the word, "Lord", mean. It means divine. We must believe "In the beginning, God..." or else forget the whole Bible. We must accept it all or none. God made the universe so He is the ruler. There is a recognized need to restrain man and his passions ever since Adam sinned. Cain murdered his brother. By Noah's time God saw the need of a cleansing of the earth. Even after the flood, depravity continued downward so God had to further restrain man. God wants all men to carry out His commands. God has used nations and rulers for His purpose. Conscience is not a safe guide for man to follow. Man's imagination was evil continually.

God put His stamp of authority on His Son at His baptism and the Transfiguration. The age of conscience and the age of law is past. We are now in the age of Grace, which was manifested by Jesus, especially at Calvary. His authority is absolute in Heaven and Earth. Romans 1 contains a description of modern man. Because we have received more in this age of Grace we have greater responsibility. It has been said that America is living like decadent Ancient Rome. It appears that America will do one of two things, either she will repent and get right with God or she will become even worse than Rome.

Men are today not only seeking wealth but they are following the occult, listening to strange voices. The child of God does not follow these things. He will follow the law of God. We are to live exemplary lives.

II Tim. 3:1-5. This pictures the rebellion of so-called Christian America. Rom. 3:9-11. No group is any better or worse than others. The public schools are teaching disrespect for parents and rightful authority. Delinquent parents produce delinquent children. Murder, rape, sedition, prostitution, drunkenness, drugs are some of the sins of this nation. I Tim. 1:9-10. Rom. 13:1-5 speaks of God's establishment of civil power. Civil law must be followed unless it is in conflict with the law of God. Just as the civil law demands a penalty for disobedience so sin brings God's penalty. We should be thankful for the yet continuing freedoms of this nation but we do not know how long they will continue. We have a material

prosperity unknown in most nations. Are we being lulled asleep by this plenty?

Where do we fit in this picture as individuals. We are to be lights. A small light shows up in the darkness. We must pray for our leaders in the Church. We need to pray for the lost. We need to carry out the Great Commission even in unpleasant places.

Let us be willing to have God as the Lord of our lives.

To be continued.

I PRAYED - HE ANSWERED

I prayed for relief from my burden
I asked the Lord to take it away.
But I grew unsettled and doubtful,
For the burden grew harder each day.
Then I changed the note of my praying,
And asked for the Master alone.
Then turned to take up my burden -
But lo! My burden was gone.

I prayed for more power to witness
The story of Christ's wondrous love,
But no message of might ever came,
Though I prayed to our Father above.
So I changed the note of my praying
Asked Jesus to come in and dwell,
And found to my great satisfaction,
That I the story could tell.

So now if I'm burdened or doubtful,
Or weary with overmuch care
I go at once to my Saviour,
Ask Him the burden to share.
And I find Him ever so willing,
For He walks by my side on the road
Now wonder of wonders I'm telling
He takes from my heart all the load.

Sister Ollie M. Mallow
R.D. 1 Box 45
Clearville, Pennsylvania 15535

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE LOST SHEEP

Matthew 18:10-14

Jesus liked little children and I'm sure that children liked Jesus. Jesus said, "Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter the kingdom of heaven." Children are humble and they know they are dependent on their parents. Jesus wants us to be dependent upon Him. Children are wonderful, but they do grow up and then they are not children anymore.

We used to raise sheep. The mother sheep would care for her lambs. The lambs would follow their mothers wherever they went. But sometimes a lamb would get separated from its mother. Then it would cry out and would not stop until it had found her again. Its very life depended on the milk from its mother. Sometimes a mother sheep would die and the lamb would be an orphan. This happened one time and our daughter took the little lamb and fed it from a bottle. The lamb grew and grew and finally it was big enough to go with the other sheep and eat grass. When we turned the bottle-fed lamb in with the herd of sheep, what do you think it did? It just wandered off by itself. It didn't want to be with the others and one day a coyote killed it. The lamb was so tame that it wasn't afraid and when the other sheep ran away, it just stayed and lost its life. A mother sheep would have taught the lamb to stay with the others.

I believe there is a lesson here for us. Jesus talked about the ninety and nine and the one which went astray. A good shepherd will watch the sheep. If one goes off by itself, he will go after it and bring it back. Children need to have good parents who will teach them how to live. They will teach them about Jesus and take them to Church and Sunday School. Children who have good teaching will make good Christians. They will know the dangers of doing only as they please. Many children today are like the little orphan lamb. Their parents do not think enough of them to teach them what is right and they are left to themselves. They are often taught by others who have no real love for them. They may never know the love of God and get lost like the little lamb the coyote killed.

As Christian people we should be interested in those who are lost. "It is not the will of our heavenly Father that one of these little ones should perish." We know today that there are many lost souls who are wandering away from God. Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

I hope we can be like Jesus and have a love for those who are lost — for the one who left the fold and wandered away. It is not easy to hunt a lost sheep in the dark and away in the mountains. Neither is it easy to bring back to the fold a lost soul, who is wandering out in the fields of sin. It takes an effort and one who won't quit until the lost are safe once more.

Brother Rudy Cover

TOMORROW.... NEVER COMES

by Helen Hammond

Have you ever heard the saying — tomorrow never comes.

One day there was a little girl, and she had been promised by her mother that her request would be granted tomorrow. But she said, "Mommy, when is tomorrow?" The mother outlined it as coming. "After dinner you will play for a while, then you will go to bed and sleep for a while, and when you wake up it will be tomorrow." "No," said the girl, "when I wake up it is always today."

And so it is. Today is the only day that we have. For we cannot re-live yesterday and we can not pre-live tomorrow.

It is so easy for us to dwell in the past, rummaging through the good memories and mulling over the bad ones. Have you ever gotten out an old photo album and started looking through the pictures? One memory will come after another memory.

On the other hand we are prone to perfact our joys, our opportunities, even our living in the future. So many times I, and I am sure you, have said these things too. "After I get my business established I'll spend more time with my family," or have you heard this one? "Next semester I'll get with it and study." Or especially the children, will say "I wish it were Summer!"

Today, often becomes something to be endured rather than to be used. To be wished away rather than to be enjoyed.

We need the Psalmist attitude — "this is the day the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." This is the day to live: to cultivate the fruits of the spirit: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

This is the day to be strong — we need to face one thing at a time. And how precious the Bible, as it says to us — "As thy days, so shall thy strength be."

And you know this is the day to decide. So many times it is so easy to say, "Well, let me think about it a little longer, let me have a little more time." The Bible says, "Today is the day of salvation. We have no promise of tomorrow."

In one familiar tale, the author describes a strategy session in which the devils discuss the best ways to thwart Christ's cause on earth. After they had talked for a long time, the winning idea came up, "Tell the people to decide tomorrow. Tomorrow will be soon enough." So many times as we have talked to people, especially in the orient, they will say, "I just don't have time today, I have to work today, I just don't have the time — maybe tomorrow there will be more time." But you know Joshua's words still echo. "Choose you this day whom you will serve."

Today is the day to give thanks. Thanksgiving forces us to take stock of the situations and the inventory invariable obliges us to conclude that we have many things to be grateful for. Everyday should be thanks giving day. Just take time to stop and think of the many, many things that we should be thankful for.

Selected by Sister Ruth Drake

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Elder Frank D. Shaffer is 13062 Grant Shook Road, Greencastle, Pennsylvania 17225.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

We were privileged to have another Harvest Meeting this year on September 7. Visiting Brethren were David Ebling, Edward Johnson and Dean St. John. The messages of the day were centered around the 5th chapter of Galatians; telling us of the differences between the works of the flesh which spells... sin and the fruit of the spirit which spells... Christian. Even though Harvest Meeting is but once a year, we should always, day by day, thank God for our blessings. We are blessed indeed far above many in this world.

Again, on October 25 we experienced another Lovefeast with Brethren Harley Rush and Edward Johnson as visiting ministers. Thirty-three surrounded the table of the Lord. Thoughts of the day were centered around "God's Love for us," "Our choosing of Christ or of the World," and "Jesus on the Cross." What love He had, to die for you and me!

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

BIBLE STUDY BOARD

The Bible Study Board is preparing books for use in primary classes for 1981.

There will be a picture to color with each Bible study.

Please send your order, stating number you need to:

William Carpenter
8012 Cavender St.
Morenci, Michigan 49256

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR DECEMBER

Dec. 7 - The Angel, Gabriel, Talks to Mary. Luke 1:26-56.
Dec. 14 - The Birth of John. Luke 1:57-80.
Dec. 21 - The BIRTH OF CHRIST. Luke 2:1-20.
Dec. 28 - Jesus in the Temple. Luke 2:21-52.

QUESTIONS:

(1) Why do you suppose Mary found favor with God as the angel, Gabriel, said in Luke 1:30? Luke 1:46, 47.
(2) Is there anything impossible with God? Luke 1:46, 47.
(3) What did Zacharias, the father of John, prophesy when he was filled with the Holy Ghost? Luke 1:68-79.
(4) What did the shepherds do after they had seen the baby Jesus in the manger? Luke 2:17-18.
(5) At twelve years of age Jesus was in the temple sitting in the midst of the doctors of the law, both hearing them and asking them questions. What answer did Jesus give His mother when she found Him? Luke 2:49.

Sweet deeds of love and service
  Still learn to multiply;
There is so much that you can do,
  If you will only try.
For little hands small tasks are set
  That men could never do,
And you may speak so many words
  That helpful are and true.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR DECEMBER, 1980

DEATH

Memory Verse: Mark 10:33 & 34
Saying, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be delivered unto the chief priests, and unto the scribes; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the gentiles: And they shall mock him, and shall scourge him, and shall kill him: and the third day he shall rise again.

Mon. 1 - Matt. 26:20-46
Tues. 2 - Matt. 26:47-75
Wed. 3 - Matt. 27:1-22
Thur. 4 - Matt. 27:23-44
Fri. 5 - Matt. 27:45-66
Sat. 6 - Mark 5:21-43

Memory Verse:
And the chief priests and all the council sought for witness against Jesus to put him to death; and found none.

Sun. 7 - Mark 7:1-23
Mon. 8 - Mark 10:32-52
Tues. 9 - Mark 13:1-20
Wed. 10 - Mark 14:1-25
Thur. 11 - Mark 14:26-50
Fri. 12 - Mark 14:51-72
Sat. 13 - Luke 1:5-25

Memory Verse: Luke 1:79
To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Sun. 14 - Luke 1:26-56
Mon. 15 - Luke 1:57-80
Tues. 16 - Luke 2:21-40
Wed. 17 - Luke 9:12-36
Thur. 18 - Luke 18:18-43
Fri. 19 - Luke 21:1-24
Sat. 20 - Luke 22:1-23

Memory Verse: Luke 2:10 & 11
And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Sun. 21 - Luke 22:24-46
Mon. 22 - Luke 22:47-71
Tues. 23 - Luke 23:1-26
Wed. 24 - Luke 23:27-56
Thur. 25 - Luke 2:1-20
Fri. 26 - Luke 24:1-26
Sat. 27 - Luke 24:27-53

Memory Verse:
But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God.

Sun. 28 - John 4:43-54
Mon. 29 - John 5:1-24
Tues. 30 - John 5:25-47
Wed. 31 - John 8:39-59

Memory Verses: John 5:24
Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 8:51
Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my sayings, he shall never see death.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII DECEMBER 1, 1980 NO. 23

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

JESUS, I'LL GO THROUGH WITH THEE

I have made my choice forever, I will walk with Christ my Lord;
Naught from Him my soul can sever, While I'm trusting in His word;
I the lonely way have taken, Rough and toilsome though it be,
And although despised, forsaken, "Jesus, I'll go thro' with Thee."

Tho' the garden lies before me, And the scornful judgment hall,
Tho' the gloom of deepest midnight Settles round me like a pall;
Darkness can affright me never, From Thy presence shadows flee,
And if Thou wilt guide me ever, "Jesus, I'll go thro' with Thee."

Tho' the earth may rock and tremble, Tho' the sun may hide its face,
Tho' my foes be strong and ruthless, Still I dare to trust Thy grace,
Tho' the cross my path o'er-shadow, Thou didst bear it once for me,
And whate'er the pain or peril, "Jesus, I'll go thro' with Thee."

When the conflict here is ended, And the weary journey done,
When the last grim foe is conquered, And the final vict'ry won:
When the pearly gates swing open, And an entrance full and free
Shall be granted to the victors, "Jesus, I'll go thro' with Thee."

- Mrs. E. E. Williams

RELUCTANT SERVANTS

Servants often do their masters' bidding very reluctantly. This reluctance is not only the attitude of servants but also of children.

Jesus spoke of a father who had two sons. He bid each of them to go work in his field. Each was reluctant. The first refused to go, although he later repented. The second feigned going but never went. This reluctance is found not only in natural labors but even in the work of the Lord. Jonah was like the first son. He did all he could to avoid being a missionary to Ninevah. He went after God used extraordinary means to change his mind. There have also been many who resembled the second son. They have professed a willingness to go and to serve but their reluctance overcame their good intentions.

Peter made many bold declarations concerning his love and devotion to Jesus. He boasted of his willingness to die for Jesus but in a few hours he would be found asleep when he should have been praying and a little later he thrice denied the Lord whom he had promised to die for. Peter made many bold professions but his reluctance in the hour of trial was greater. Have we ever been in Peter's place? Have we boasted of the devoted service we would render to our God, only to realize in a few hours that our courage had been overcome by reluctance. Have we enjoyed Spiritual mountaintop experiences, such as General Conference or a Lovefeast, yet within a few days we find ourselves back in the same valley? We often are more like Peter than we would like to admit. Our reluctance overcomes our boasts and our desire to serve. We would do better to follow Peter after the Resurrection when he became a tried and true servant no longer ruled by reluctance.

THE BIBLE MONITOR DECEMBER 1, 1980

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With the Holy Spirit's help we too can become devoted servants of our Lord.

Another reluctant servant of the Bible is Lot. Because of God's Grace and the pleadings of his uncle, Abraham, he was rescued from the impending doom of Sodom and Gomorrah. He was reluctant to leave behind the binding cords of this world's goods and pleasures. Not only did the angels warn Lot of the soon destruction of the wicked cities but they urged him to warn his family and to flee before it was too late. Finally it was necessary for these messengers to take Lot and his family by the hand and lead them out of the city. Once they were out of the city, we would think their thankfulness would be so abundant that there would be no reluctance to do as God would bid them. But reluctance was still a part of Lot's life style. His wife's reluctance to part with the loved ones and possessions of her former home may well have reflected Lot's own feelings. His prior association with Abraham may have strengthened him so he could overcome the world's binding cords better than his wife. Since husband and wife are to be of one mind we can imagine that they had similiar interests and ties to their home, family and friends in Sodom.

Even this dramatic warning to Lot, through the change of his wife into a pillar of salt when her reluctance to leave became too great, did not drive reluctance entirely from his heart. He was bidden to flee to the mountain to find safety but he desired rather to flee to Zoar. His excuse for this reluctance was that he feared the wild beasts of the mountain. He had so soon forgotten the God who had delivered him from hell fire and brimstone. He failed to believe that this almighty God could just as easily deliver him from the wild animals of the wilderness. The love of the world's goods, positions and pleasures had put a reluctance within him. He could not fully yield himself to the counsel of God. The carnal man's attitudes constrained him from the hearty service that he should have rendered to God.

The reluctance that characterized Lot's escape from Sodom is still a part of the attitude of many people. For many the escape from the destruction promised to the world is made very reluctantly. They must be pulled from their destruction much like Lot. There is a great reluctance on the part of many to claim the salvation of their souls provided by God. Some who have made their escape continue to be reluctant to serve God who rescued them. They do not listen to the counsel of the Church when that counsel is contrary to their desire.

Just as reluctant children need love and discipline that their reluctance may be turned into willing service, so reluctant

Christians need the same love and discipline. Christians may boldly profess their love and devoted service but reluctance may hinder the actual fulfillment of their profession.

Are you reluctant to serve God? Surely you will not be hindered like Jonah and Peter and Lot. Surely you will not be reluctant when He calls upon you to be obedient. He wants your willing service.

1980 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from November 15, 1980 Issue

Tuesday P.M.

Second Speaker: Bro. Virgil Leatherman. Conscience. I Thess. 5:24.

All have received a calling of some kind. The conscience is a great evangelist for each one unless it is seared. It tugs at the heart strings. There is a homing instinct within each one much like the salmon of the Northwestern United States. If God put this instinct in animals, could He not put a similar instinct within mankind. The conscience is a good guide if it has been properly trained in childhood.

Just as God called Adam in the Garden, so He still calls to us. Belshazzar's feast was interrupted by the handwriting on the wall. His conscience began to bother even though he could not understand it. He was reminded of Nebuchadnezzar's experiences that should have changed his life. Peter's conscience convicted him after he denied Jesus thrice. He wept. The conscience of Judas bothered him so he couldn't live with himself. He committed suicide instead of repenting.

We often wound our conscience with careless words and deeds. Rest is taken away until the wrong is made right. The control tower at the airport can lead in a plane that is unable to land because of weather conditions. We can not get to Heaven on our own, we need the voice that is leading us on. God will guide us in safely in love and kindness God's will is that all would come to repentance. He wants each to head home rather than toward Hell. We need to turn our lives over to Him. He has made all things possible that we might be saved. Pay heed to your conscience and head Home. There is no excuse when one is lost for eternity because he has a built-in witness.

Closing: Bro. Eldon Mallow.

We must give free course to what we have heard. We have heard of Divine Love, Divine Authority and Divine Call.

Tuesday Evening

Moderator: Elder Edward Johnson.

Chorister: Bro. Merle Swihart.

Opening: Elder Jacob Ness. John 10:14.

There is a responsibility to occupy until He returns. Part of that responsibility is to seek the other sheep who are not in the fold. Those in the control tower at the airport have a great responsibility — so do we. Each of us have a work to do.

Speaker: Elder Dale Jamison. Am I My Brothers Keeper? Gal. 6:1-10.

We often think of a missionary as one who goes across the sea, but a missionary can work right in his own Church. Although we pray, go to church and read our Bibles, do we really care?

Parents are their children's keepers. They preserve and protect them. Here we are concerned about a brother's keeper. This is a concern for each other's welfare. There are two aspects of our living, the world and the Church.

We are responsible to be salt and light in the world. We do not take part in the political or social world. We need to have lives that show forth our faith in God. The world needs to see what God would have them to do. But too many church members can not give witness of their faith because they do not have a genuine faith.

We are each responsible for our own soul yet there is a responsibility to not offend another and/or harm his spiritual life. We should have a desire like Paul for his people however wrong they might have been. Do we have such a love for others? Do we live so close to the Lord that we lose ourselves in Him?

We need first to pray for one another. We need to seek God's help that we have the right attitude in His Service. We need our Brother and he needs us. We need to learn to feel what he feels. We don't take time to help one another and understand each other's need. One of the best things that a father can do for his children is to love mother. That kind of love should be in the Church. The world's society often provides a place and a love for people that the Church does not. Can our Church love the unlovable? Most people are not unlovable but are normal people who need you. Care is a very important factor in everyone's life. Jesus had compassion.

Until we learn to be our brother's brother we will not treat him very good. Each Christian is a Christian because somebody cared. One soul is worth more than the whole world. Perhaps we all need to rearrange our priorities.

We need to persuade the lost of their condition and need. They have no hope outside of the Lord. There is a need in the world for

people who rise above themselves. What will you do with Jesus.

Closing: Elder Joseph Flora.

Did this message burn in our hearts a little? "Arise and let us go hence." We need to do the work that is undone. We don't know what is before us but we know we can go forward with Jesus.

Wednesday Morning Worship

Moderator: Elder Edward Johnson.

Chorister: Bro. Merle Swihart.

Speaker: Elder Charles Leatherman. Luke 19:29-44.

The Children of Israel had the opportunity to know who this Jesus was. We also have that opportunity. But do we praise Him like He deserves? Do we often look back and see missed opportunities? We need to apply what we have heard that we do not waste the opportunity given us, like the children of Israel did.

The End.

Editors Note: This concludes the record of the sermons heard at the 1980 General Conference. Again we thank Sister Ruth Drake for making tapes of these messages available for the benefit of each one. May these messages be a help to those who have read these notes as well as those who were privileged to hear them in person.

THE WEEDS OF LIFE

As I was weeding in our garden the other evening, I noticed that the big weeds pulled harder, and even then they broke off before I got the root out. I thought, "How much that is like our lives!" The little weeds — people don't worry about them. "We'll wait until they are bigger, then get it out." How very true. We wait until they are so big that they WON'T come out. When we do try, they break off and leave the root deep in our heart.

Let us pray that God will help us get the "little" things out of our lives before they get any bigger. "Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vine have tender grapes." Song of Solomon 2:15.

Sister Rebecca Blocher

STARVED IN THE END—It is said that Duke d'Alva starved his prisoners after he had given them quarters, saying, "Though I promised your lives, I promised not to find you meat." Thus, in much the same manner, do the world and the Devil deceive their votaries in the end.

THE MISSING BLESSING

Does something seem to be missing in your life? You've done much for the Lord, you think, and there should be much joy, but there isn't always. At times, it seems that the blessing of God is missing and you are wondering what's wrong. There is an answer as to why we don't feel blessed, or are not blessed. For every blessing promised, there's a responsibility or qualification. Blessings are missed whenever we fail to meet these requirements.

Blessings can be missed when we don't claim promises or when we aren't ready for a blessing. We can miss a blessing when we have a set idea of how it should come, or when we don't open our hearts to receive one. Sometimes our minds are closed and we don't recognize our blessings. We spoil a blessing when we are not contented with what is received. We also miss many blessings by simply quitting too soon. Jacob said, "I will not let thee go, except thou bless me." Gen. 32:26b. He held on for a blessing; so must we.

"Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities." Acts 3:26. Holding on to sin deprives us of the blessing of salvation. This also deprives us of other blessings, both spiritual and natural ones. Matt. 6:33 says "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." There are many blessings which God gives to His own, and we only cheat ourselves when we go our own way and leave God out of our lives.

"Blessed are all they that wait for him." Isa. 30:18b. A blessing is missed when we don't wait on the Lord. Sometimes we get in a hurry for things to be done and in our haste, we spoil what God has for us. We don't wait because we don't trust God as we should. Psa. 34:8b says "Blessed is the man that trusteth in him." It does pay to wait on the Lord with a trusting heart, then "he shall bring it to pass." (Psa. 37:5)

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Mal. 3:10. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35b. Whether we are giving in the Lord's work or to help someone in need, there is a blessing in giving. On the other hand, if we withhold that which we should give, God will also withhold His blessing.

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the council of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat

of the scornful." Psa. 1:1. There is a lot of ungodly advice available in every area of life, so be careful whose advice you follow. Otherwise you might find yourself doing just the opposite of what God wants you to do. Our blessing comes in following Godly counsel, not the philosophies of men.

"Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O Lord, and teachest him out of thy law." Psa. 94:12. God does the chastening and teaching; we are to do the learning. If we refuse to respond to God's correction, again we cheat ourselves. There is no blessing in going on in our old ways and habits. The blessing comes when we have learned new ways and new habits — those which please the Lord. "Blessed are they which keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart." Psa. 119:2.

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." Matt. 5:44. "Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways." Psa. 128:1. If we react according to human nature and fight back, we just add to our misery and lose a blessing besides. Walking in the Lord's way and serving Him brings the blessing. Returning love for hate is God's way.

"Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing." See James 3:9-10. An inconsistent life will not be a blessed life. Blessings are missed because we don't ask. Anywhere you find in the Bible, Blessed is...", doing the opposite of what is stated means you miss a blessing. How then do we get blessed? "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." James 1:12. A blessing comes now while we endure and serve the Lord, but the greatest blessing is yet to come. It is the crown of life. Stay faithful to the Lord so you don't miss any of the blessings God has for you.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio

BURIAL OF MOSES

A Welsh preacher, speaking of the burial of Moses, said: "In that burial not only was the body buried, but also the grave and graveyard. This is an illustration of the way in which God's mercy buries sins. No one is in the funeral with Mercy (just as it is understood that no one was at the funeral of Moses but God), and if any should meet Mercy on returning from the burial of sin and ask her: "Mercy, where didst thou bury our sins?" her answer would be, "I do not remember."

THE DEVIL IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

There are so many translations of the Bible in the world today that Christians are being led away from the True Word of God. Therefore I see a need to be very cautious about using other versions, even when used as references. I believe God saw a need for the English translation of the King James Version. It is my belief He actually rewrote the Bible through the hands and minds of those men in 1611, who dedicated their time to such a work. It is also my belief there are no errors in it. Perhaps sometimes we don't understand it and thus think there are. We should pray for understanding of God's Word and as our need arises we will gain wisdom in such.

I ran across a leaflet that tells the Bibles and Manuscripts used to translate and compile the King James Version of 1611. They were as follows, the Original New Testament Manuscripts: Greek Vulgate - Traditional or Byzantine Manuscripts; Pershitta - 150 A.D. - Syriac Version; Old Latin Vulgate 157; ninety five percent of all Manuscripts (which have become known as the Textus Receptus or the Received Text); Erasmus' Greek Bible - 1516; Luther's Bible - 1522; Tyndale's English Bible - 1525; Stephen's New Testament - 1550; the Geneva Bible - 1560. From these was the material taken that is found in the King James Version. No where was the Catholic Bible included, in which many would have us believe.

The Catholic Bible is listed in the other stream which is titled, Corrupted Manuscripts on this leaflet. They are: Alexandrine Type Manuscripts (Origen, 185-254, the greatest exponent); Constantine Bibles - 312 (fifty ecumenenical Bibles patterned after Origen's Bible); Sinaitus and Vaticanus Manuscripts (about 350 A.D. Basic Manuscripts behind all modern versions); Latin Vulgate - 380 (By Jerome. Included seven Apocryphal books. Still Official Roman Catholic Bible); Douay - 1582 (Roman Catholic); Westcott and Hort Greek New Testament - 1870; Revised Version - 1881 (which differs in 36,000 places from King James Version); American Standard Version - 1901; New World Translation - 1950 (Jehovah's Witness Bible); New American Standard Version - 1960; Today's English Version or Good News for Modern Man; New English Bible; Amplified Bible; Living Bible and all modern versions; Jerusalem Bible (R.C.) - 1966; Common Bible - 1973; and the New International Version - 1973.

No matter how many thousands of words of explanation you read concerning how wonderful the American Standard Version, New American Standard Version, New International Version, New

Scofield are, they NEVER tell you that these "wonderful" versions which "CONTAIN" the Word of God come from the SAME CORRUPTED MANUSCRIPTS which produced the Russelite version, and the "Good" News version! DON'T FORGET THIS. It will pay you to MEMORIZE this! Putting poison water in a gold cup doesn't sweeten the water! 99.44 percent of those who "love" the above mentioned versions wouldn't spit on the "Jehovah's Witness Bible" and the "Good" News for Modern Man and the Revised Standard Version, if they were on fire. But these translations come from the corrupt Roman Catholic Vaticanus and Sinaiticus Manuscripts which contain fairy tale books (called APOCRYPHAL BOOKS). II Cor. 2:17, "For we are not as many, which corrupt the Word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

The above material is found in a leaflet by Rolland C. Starr.

This leaflet set me to thinking that these modern versions can be very misleading and are probably the work of Satan himself. We are to beware of wolves in sheep's clothing. In Matt. 7:15 we read "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves." Cannot this be the case to sidetrack Christian believers.

Satan's worse enemy is God fearing Christians. He tries to persuade the weaker Christians and perhaps even the stronger by this means.

If we do not have an inspired, infallible, inerrant Word of God to rest our souls upon for Time and Eternity, then we are of all men most miserable, our salvation is worthless. You and I need an Anchor for our souls. The storm in its fury is breaking fast. We need a Road Map, a Light for our way. The road ahead is black as midnight without it. Do not be alarmed at these malicious attacks by men whose minds are mastered by a hatred for God and His Holy Word, but pray for guidance.

If God caused the originals to be written WITHOUT ERROR what good would that do, if He didn't or couldn't KEEP His Word without error all through the centuries?

Give the Devil his due he has done a splendid job of spreading confusion in the minds of Christians the past one hundred years since the publication of the Revised Version of 1881 where all this mischief began.

Out of a vast mass of sacred manuscripts which they had, they chose twenty seven. How do we know that? We have them right here in the New Testament. I am confident God was in the choosing of those manuscripts, guiding them to choose the ones they did.

One thing is certain God has great concern for His Holy Word. You cannot tamper with God's Holy Word and get away with it! God won't let you!

Just how jealous are you for God's Word the Bible? If I can cause you and myself also, to have more reverence and devotion and faith in this Blessed Book, God's True Word, I will not have spoken in vain. God's Word shouldn't be kicked around like a football.

There came the Reformation and when this people heard of what was happening across the Alps in Geneva and Germany they sent their scholars with their manuscripts. They compared them with those of Calvin and Luther and found them practically identical. Where was God all this time? I say He was RIGHT THERE, as He always is.

WHERE IS THE PURE WORD OF GOD? When all the volumes of facts are in, there is only one answer found in the King James Version of the Bible which God in His Sovereignty has kept intact and pure and without error all through these three hundred and fifty years or more.

Isa. 40:8, "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the Word of God shall stand forever." Psa. 119:89, "Forever, O Lord, thy Word is settled in heaven." (If God's Word is settled in Heaven how dare we change it on earth.) Matt. 24:35, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." The great rapid rush to find a new Bible is a dangerous movement indeed.

We contend for every word of the Bible and believe in the verbal, literal inspiration of Holy Scripture. If the words are taken from us, the exact meaning is of itself lost. When Paul told Timothy, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God." He was talking of a Greek translation that Timothy possessed as being the inspired Word of God. We contend that God has preserved an inerrant Word is not only able to preserve it but to enlighten men to understand it.

Satan began his war against God underneath the tree of knowledge - and he has camped there ever since. Christians Beware! Psa. 12:6, 7; 118:8; Matt. 24:35.

Sister Mary Alice Carlin

FAG END—An aged man who had served the world, the flesh and the Devil, during a long life, came down to the chilly waves of death. A Christian by his bedside strove to point him to Jesus, but the dying man exclaimed in substance: "No, I have neglected a kind and merciful God all my life, served the Devil faithfully, and now I will not insult God by throwing the wasted end of my sinful life in His face."

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE MAN WHO WOULDN'T FORGIVE

Matt. 18:21-35

One time Jesus told about a king who had many servants. The servants worked for the king and took care of his property and his business. This king loaned money to some of his servants and at certain times would take an account of how much was owed to him. One servant was brought to him which owed the king ten thousand talents or about fifteen million dollars. How one servant could get in debt to the king for that much, I don't know, but he had because Jesus said so. I suppose he was an overseer of the king's business and it would have been easy for him to borrow money. He may have gambled, hoping for a big return which never came.

As the servant had nothing to pay the debt, the king commanded him and his wife and children to be sold and payment to be made. We don't know what it would be like to be sold into slavery. People who owed money and couldn't pay were put up for auction and men would bid for them just like animals are sold today. They would then become slaves for life to the one who paid the highest price. Often the wife and children would be sold to different buyers and they might never see one another again. Aren't you glad that you live in a country that doesn't allow anyone to be a slave?

The servant fell down before the king and begged for mercy and said, "Lord have patience with me, and I will pay thee all." The king knew the servant would never be able to pay the debt and how terrible it would be for the man and his family to be sold, so he had compassion on him and let him go, and forgave him the debt. I think that king was a good man, don't you?

The rest of the story is real sad. This same servant who had been forgiven so much, went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred pence. He laid hands on him, grabbed him by the throat and said, "Pay me what you owe." Then the fellow servant fell down at his feet and said, "Have patience with me and I will pay you all." But the man would not but went and cast him into prison till he should pay the debt. How he expected a man in prison to pay him, I'll never know!

The man who was put in prison had friends. It's always good to have friends who will help in a time of need. These friends were also servants of the king and told him what had happened. The king immediately sent for the servant to whom he had forgiven so much and said to him, "O, thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all

that debt because you desired mercy of me: shouldn't you also have had compassion on your fellow servant, even as I had on you?" We don't read that the unmerciful servant had one word to say. Then the king became very angry and delivered him to the jailers till he should pay all that was due him.

The lesson we should learn is that Jesus said, "So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if you from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses." Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?" Jesus said, "I say not unto thee, until seven times; but until seventy times seven.

Brother Rudy Cover

THE CLOSED DOOR

Luke 13:25, "When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are." Here we see a closed door. If on the day God calls you home and you have never been born again and had your sins washed away in the blood of the Lamb, this door will be closed to you. There is no one that can open it. You are lost. That will be a sad day for you. Today is the day of Salvation.

We read in the Bible that Noah preached for years and was only able to save his family — his wife, his three sons and their wives. They all went into the ark, God closed the door and all the rest of the earth perished. I wonder if we are preparing for that Home Over There, which the Lord has promised to all the faithful.

Many years ago I read about a door that went closed. It seemed a mother had a baby, nine months old. She decided to go for a walk with a buggy for the baby. She was living on the upper flat of the apartment. She decided to leave the baby on the floor and take the buggy downstairs. Pulling the door nearly closed, she went down with the buggy, never thinking the child would crawl up to the door and close it. But this is what happened. When she hurried back up to the apartment, she found the door closed and her purse inside with the key in it. She ran as fast as she could down to where her husband could be reached by phone. She asked him to come with the house key. She went back and talked to the baby but it kept crying. The husband arrived and opened the door. They took the child in their arms and was so thankful to the Dear Lord for His help in saving the child.

Those of you out in the world of sin and folly, do you ever stop to think what it would mean to you, if the door of Salvation were closed to you? When Noah obeyed the Lord and took his family into the Ark, God closed the door. We are told only a remnant will be saved. Will we be among those He will call to a Home Beyond? I am sure when the rains started many came to the door of the ark trying to get in, but when Noah preached they did not heed the words of eternal life. I am sure dear ones you too have heard the call many times. Don't put it off till tomorrow. It may never come and the door to your home in Heaven will be shut.

Many dear souls are so near but yet so far. Some have enjoyed the pleasures of a Christian life, but let Satan take them back into a world of sin. Dear ones, what is wrong? Do you love the pleasures here more than you love your Heavenly Father, who died that you might have a home Above? Some day you are going to have to stand before the Judgment bar of God and give an account, so now is the time to come back into fellowship with the Lord.

Sister E. M. Alltus

CLOSING THE DOOR BEHIND HIM

By Elder J. H. Moore

It was the first and only love feast Judas ever attended. He had been with the Master for more than three years. He was the trusted treasurer and steward of the little band of selected believers. He had heard Jesus preach hundreds of times, and such wonderful preaching no man ever heard before. Even the learned and gifted said, "Never man spake like this man." He had seen him perform scores of miracles, to the wonder and amazement of every beholder. He could not, it seems, help believing that his Master, as his disciples called him, was a supernatural being.

At the end of three years the little group of disciples, twelve in number, assembled with their leader in an upper room in Jerusalem. It was probably on Thursday evening, in the early part of April. A memorial meal had been spread upon the table, around which the thirteen had gathered. The curtains were down and the door was closed. The Master, to the amazement of his disciples, girded himself with a towel, poured water into a basin, and washed and wiped the feet of each of them. This was a religious service which they could not at that time understand. It was the first love feast for all of them. Then followed the Lord's supper, a meal that had been prepared for this special evening. It was the last meal that the Son of God ate with his followers while in the flesh.

Near the close of this sacred meal Jesus astonished his disciples by what he said to Judas. Judas understood it, but the others did not. He arose, turned his back upon the Lord's table, walked out of the room, closed the door after him and disappeared. The Christian world knows the fate of that man. His actions threw a shadow over the quiet little meeting. Each of the remaining disciples wondered what it meant. Why should Judas leave the room in the midst of the feast? Why should he walk out and close the door after him? That door was closed, nevermore to be opened by the man who had turned his back on the Lord's table. In vain they looked for the door to swing on its hinges, but the man never returned. Satan had entered into him, and he went to his doom.

A few minutes later Jesus blessed the bread representing his broken body, and gave it to his disciples to eat. They ate it with sad forebodings of some mysterious fate awaiting their Master. The cup was passed in like manner. But Judas was not there. He alone of the twelve had been captured by Satan and led to his destruction. During the night he betrayed his holy Master, and before the ending of another day he closed his unfortunate life at the end of a rope. Such was the fate of the man who dared to turn his back on the Lord's table. Such was the end of the man who left the society of the saints, walked out of the room and closed the door behind him. Such was the doom of the man who permitted Satan to enter his heart and lead him astray. Better for that man had he never been born.

And so it was with those who do not keep their hearts bolted against Satan. If Satan once enters the heart of the believer, as he entered the heart of Judas, his doom is sealed. He will be induced to leave the society of holy people, to leave the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, to turn his back upon the Lord's table and all the sacred institutions belonging to the house of God, to walk out of the church, close the door behind him, and disappear in the sinful world. Sad indeed is the fate of such a man.

Selected from Our Saturday Night

NEWS ITEM

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation enjoyed a lovefeast October 26, 1980. Visiting ministers throughout the day were: Frank Shaffer, Laverne Keeney, Allen Eberly, Jack Snyder with Bro. Shaffer officiating in the evening.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVIII DECEMBER 15, 1980 NO. 24

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous, more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

I LOVE TO HEAR THE STORY

I love to hear the story Which angel voices tell,
How once the King of Glory came down on earth to dwell.
I am both weak and sinful, But this I surely know:
The Lord came down to save me Because He loved me so.

I'm glad my blessed Savior Was once a child like me,
To show how pure and holy His little ones might be;
And if I try to follow His footsteps here below,
He never will forget me Because He loves me so.

To sing His love and mercy My sweetest song I'll raise;
And tho' I cannot see Him, I know He hears my praise;
For He has kindly promised That I shall surely go
To sing among His angels, Because He loves me so.

- Emily H. Miller

THE VIRGIN BIRTH

Parents often stretch their imaginations and use many methods to make a novel announcement of their baby's arrival. But no other baby's birth was ever heralded as this one. The sky above the shepherds could hardly contain the Heavenly host that made this announcement. By word and by song, the birth of the Good Shepherd and the Lamb of God was made known to the shepherds in the country near Bethlehem.

Certainly human imagination was dwarfed by the awesome heavenly display of God's favor toward man. Praise and worship were the main ingredients of this message. The magnificence of this Heavenly host far outshone any production that man could undertake. No tinsel or glitter could ever capture the glory of the birth of the Saviour of mankind.

Although His birthplace was lowly, there was nothing lowly about His purpose or His origin. There might be questions about one being born in so humble circumstances, yet being heralded abroad by God's messengers. But here was a truly unique situation. The Son of God had taken human form and had come to dwell among men. This unique situation certainly demanded a unique announcement.

The philosophers, the professors, and the educated deny that such a thing could happen. A virgin birth is beyond the realm of reality for men. It had never happened before and would never happen again, but this time was that special time. The announcement of this birth was made to the simple shepherds of the fields. They did not doubt but went quickly to offer their worship to this newborn king. Their reaction was unhindered by the philosophies

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and education of men. They could receive and believe the news that was given them.

They could receive the news of His birth like Mary received the news of His conception. She was fully resigned to the will of God. She was willing to lend her body as the bearer of this most precious of all Gifts. Mary had many things to ponder as she considered the past months and as she witnessed the worship of these shepherds. There would be other things for her to ponder throughout the life of this Son, but she never doubted.

She had been visited by the Angel Gabriel in her faraway home of Nazareth. He had announced to her that she had received the favor of God by being the one who would bring this special Child into the world. Because this child would be the sin bearer of the world, it was necessary that, though He would take upon Himself human form and experience the common situations of mankind, He not be born through the common union of man and woman. He was the Son of God. His seed was implanted within Mary that the inherited sins of mankind might be foreign to Him. He was born without sin and lived a life free of sin. This would have been impossible had His entrance into this world been by any other means than the virgin birth. Even in small children we find deception and sin, though they are not accountable for it. To be the sinbearing Lamb of God it was necessary that He be without sin even in His birth and childhood.

Men man by their own devices and strength attempt to live a good life. But even the best will fail to live a perfect life. Jesus was tempted in all the same points as other men. He knew what temptations were so alluring to you and I, but He overcame them all, so He could die as the perfect sacrifice. His sacrifice was not for Himself, for He was perfect, but for imperfect mankind. This substituationary sacrifice would not have been possible without the virgin birth. Otherwise He would have been dying for His own inherited sins even if He had lived perfectly, which under those circumstances would have been impossible.

The great and the noble of this world may deny the wonderful fact of the virgin birth but you and I can know that it is so. It is prophesied in the Old Testament and fulfilled in the New. If it were not so, our hope of eternal life would be crushed. This is not a minor doctrine that Christians can believe or deny as they please. Without it there is no salvation, for without it there is no perfect sacrifice for our sins.

The angels who appeared to the shepherds that night certainly had every reason to hail the birth of Jesus. The shepherds were wise enough to receive their message and to haste to worship Him

and to witness of their experiences. You and I need the same simple wisdom that we might accept the Good News of the virgin birth of our Saviour. This is the true message of Christ's birth. He came to die for you and me.

ONE SOLITARY LIFE

Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty, and then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family, He never went to college. He never put His foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place where He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself.

While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth while He was dying — and that was His coat. When He was dead He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone and today He is the centerpiece of the human race and the leader of the column of progress.

It is far within the mark to say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that ONE SOLITARY LIFE.

Selected from The Star

"JESUS PASSETH BY"

Wherever Jesus went, people knew about Him and hearts were touched, from the time of His birth at Bethlehem until He was crucified. When Jesus was born, His arrival on earth caused quite a stir. Later in life, wherever He traveled, many were intensely aware of His presence and followed Him. No doubt the cry was heard more than once, "Jesus of Nazareth passeth by." (Luke 18:37) Not only did Jesus pass by, but He made people aware of their need of a Savior. Because of this, some in the crowds were very irritated by Jesus, while the others accepted Him readily.

On the night of Christ's birth, the innkeeper turned Mary and Joseph away. He was not aware of how special they were when he turned them away. If he had known the Son of God was to be born there, he might have made other arrangements for Mary and Joseph. Perhaps later on, the innkeeper became aware of Jesus' birth, who He is and why He came to this earth. Hopefully, he made room in his heart for Jesus. If he didn't, Jesus surely passed him by, a far different matter than not having Him as guest in the inn.

At the time of Christ's birth, people were so busy paying taxes that few noticed anything unusual. The angel made the announcement of His birth to some simple folk, the shepherds, who were not too busy to rejoice. The local dignitaries were probably among the last to know a Savior was born. The shepherds left their sheep and went immediately to Bethlehem where Jesus was, and found everything exactly as the angel said it would be. Then they spread the news — Jesus had come!

Those who were not interested in the birth of our Savior, in effect, passed Him by. But the ones who heard the shepherds' report wondered at the news. See Luke 2:1-21. They probably didn't understand but they were interested. They no doubt pondered these things in their hearts just as Mary did. As Jesus moved about in His ministry many years later, only then did they begin to understand. The knowledge of a promised Messiah was not enough to provide understanding then, and it's not now. It must be accepted by faith.

Herod was among those who wished Jesus would have passed him by. He apparently was not aware of Jesus' birth until the wise men came looking for the "King of the Jews." See Matt. 2:1-12. They came to worship, but Herod thought of Jesus only as a rival, not as a King or Savior. Again things were found to be as God's Word revealed, this time His written Word. The chief priests and scribes said Christ was to be born in Bethlehem of Judea, so the wise men went there. After seeing Jesus, they "passed by" Herod and went home.

Herod showed his rejection of Christ when he realized the wise men would not return to reveal where Christ was. He was "exceeding wroth" and ordered all the children, age two and under, to be slain in Bethlehem and the surrounding area. He tried to make sure he got rid of this "King of the Jews," but it didn't work. Jesus was to die for us in God's time, not because of some man's whim. Herod's life had been touched by Christ's presence, but his only response was rebellion.

Years passed and everthing in Jesus' life was as the Scriptures revealed. When He was to begin His ministry, He began choosing disciples. Of Levi, Mark 2:14 says, "And as he passed by, he saw

Levi, the son of Alpheus, sitting at the receipt of custom, and said unto him, Follow me. And he arose and followed him." Whenever Jesus passes by us, our response should also be to arise and follow Him, as Levi (Matthew) did. The Scriptures reveal what will happen when we follow Him. It also reveals what will happen if we just allow Jesus to pass by unnoticed.

"And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them; and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them." Mark 6:48; read 49-53 also. Many times contrary winds come in our lives, and Jesus might pass us by also, except for one thing. The disciples were troubled and had cried out in fear; Jesus immediately comforted them. When He sees our troubled hearts, He has compassion on us and stops to help us also.

In Luke 18, the multitude was following Jesus as they passed by the blind man. There was no doubt alot of noise and confusion, and the blind man asked what it all meant. Some may have joined the group more out of curiosity than of faith, but the blind man knew who Jesus was. He cried out for mercy which was granted. Jesus said, "Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee." This man had taken notice of Jesus and his life was touched, never to be the same again. You, too, can be touched, never to be the same again. You, too, can be touched. Just ask for mercy when Jesus passes by.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
R. 1, Pioneer, Ohio

NO ROOM FOR THE GREATEST AND MOST PRECIOUS GIFT OF GOD

It had been prophesied long before the event took place. The Savior of fallen humanity would be rejected by many. "He came unto his own and his own received him not."

The greatest and most precious gift was given to earth and, to a large extent, it was rejected. The great sacrifice by our Heavenly Father and His Son was not appreciated. "And she brought forth her first born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2:7

Is the greatest and most precious gift of God as precious to us as it should be in our day? As we approach the celebration of another Christmas day, we have great reason to rejoice, and to thank and praise God for what He has done and is doing for us. His coming brought light into a world of darkness. His coming greatly troubled

King Herod. He sent out men to destroy the Christ Child. He failed because of God's protecting hand over Him. Today the wonderful gift of Christ to the world is not appreciated as it should be, nor is it manifested in the lives of many.

"Joy to the world, the Lord has come." Through Christ we can have rest, the keys of the kingdom, power over evil spirits, living water, bread of heaven, and eternal life. The blessed gift of God was given. The long-ago prophesied event was to bring joy to the world.

What manner of love God has bestowed upon us that He gave His only begotten Son to be sacrificed for our redemption and Christ was willing to lay down His life for sinful humanity. Do we realize how great a gift our Heavenly Father has bestowed upon us? "Be not overcome by evil but overcome evil with good." Rom. 12:21. Today many like to receive gifts but the greatest and most precious gift is not acceptable to them. "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Phil. 2:5. We owe a life of praise and gratitude to God for the Christ who was given to the world for the redemption of lost humanity. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

Christ's spirit is manifested in the lives of true Christians. When Christ was here, many followed Him only for the loaves and fishes and would never receive His Spiritual blessings. Also many honored Him with their lips, but their hearts were far from Him. We have this condition now. Many seek only for the earthly gain, that is perishable. We are to put our affectation upon things above and not put earthly things above the eternal things of God. "That ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." Rom. 8:9. Jesus will only enter into hearts cleansed from sin. Jesus commanded that sin must be put away. We see some who are trying to serve two Masters. Jesus cannot enter or live within lives that are overflowing with sin. Those who have not cleansed their lives from iniquity will meet with disappointment in the day of judgment. He gave us an example of renouncing Satan, with all his pernicious ways and the sinful pleasures of the world and possess the fruits of the spirit. His blood avails cleansing power for the obedient. In our day many do not realize the value of a Savior, who is more precious than all the silver and gold in this world.

His grace is sufficient for us. They have no room for His Spirit to dwell in their lives. "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved." Matt. 10:22. He said, "My peace I give unto you", this peace is not as the world gives, but that which passes all understanding and joy which the

world can not give. We sometimes sing, "Let the dear Savior come in

"Let the dear Savior come in,
He'll cleanse the heart from sin;
O, keep him no more, out at the door,
But let the dear Savior come in."

He is calling to hearts filled with sin for admission. If we let Him in He will go with us through life and through the valley of the shadow of death. To have him with us is a foretaste of Glory Divine. When He was here in person, many experienced His precious healing power from the infirmities of the flesh. His power avails to cleanse and heal from the infirmities of sin. "The spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." Rom. 8:16.

Blessed are those who are resting in Christ Jesus, their works do follow them. He brought joy to the world and He will bring joy and peace into the lives of all true Christians. Our lives are overflowing with truth and righteousness if we are true and faithful to Christ.

He was opposed, because He opposed the evil way of life. When Christ fed the five thousand, He told them to gather up the fragments that nothing be lost. He was hated because He opposed sinful lives. Hearts that are occupied by Jesus develop lives that become like fountains of living water. In the Christian's life, old things have passed away and all things have become new. He said, "When I come again, shall I find faith on earth?"

Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Are we among the faithful in Christ Jesus? Are we living epistles read and known of all men? Is He our pattern? Many people are keeping the Savior out of their hearts. Are we among those who profess and do not possess? Are we among the faithful in Christ Jesus? Are we letting Him bear the cross alone? As our Savior brought joy to the world at His coming, we need to rejoice, praise and thank God for the greatest and most precious gift of all our redemption.

Man's redemption is made available only through accepting the blood of Christ. We have great reason to praise and thank God, that a way has been prepared that our sins can be washed away. Are we prepared for the way of the Lord who made the paths straight for us? The Holy Spirit should be in our lives.

No room in the inn; no room in hearts filled with sin; no room for sinners in Heaven.

Brother J. F. Marks
Rt. 9 Box 860
Plant City, Fla. 53566

GOD HAS COME TO MAN

By Hart Armstrong

"Unto us a child is born... unto us a son is given!"

In all the Word of God there is no more complete expression of God's Gift at Christmas to the world of sinful men.

Here in two simple phrases God depicts the two-fold nature of the love Gift which He gave that first Christmas morning.

"Unto us a child is born."

Our Lord was born of a virgin woman — the Son of humanity. True, His Father was the glorious God by the miracle of the Holy Spirit, but the life was cradled those many months in a human womb, nurtured and brought to birth by the sustenance which came from the Mother.

This was God identifying Himself with man; God laying aside the splendors of the heavenly realm to submit to the poverty and weakness of earth; God turning from the adoration of angels to endure the abuse of men; God being born even in a stable for there was no room for Him in the Inn.

Look down and see a babe in the manger. This is the humanity of the Saviour. This child must grow to human manhood, must know the temptations and infirmities of the flesh. He must feel hunger and thirst, pain and sorrow, loneliness and tears, toil and sweat, heartbreak and death.

"Unto us a son is given."

Here is the magnificent truth which staggers human understanding. In this tiny baby frame there is compacted God, the supreme Being, the Creator of all, the Lord of the universe. God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself!

This is the greatest thought ever to enter the human mind — the truth of the deity of Jesus Christ.

Look up and see the star. Listen to the song of the angels which floats down from the heights above. God has come down to man. The eternal is tabernacled with the finite. God has come to visit us!

Look down and see in a manger a child. Mary gave birth to her child!

Look up and see in a star the Son. God gave His only begotten Son!

The child IS born, the Son IS given! Not alone was it an event two thousand years ago: it is a new event again this Christmas.

The child... the Son IS yours! Receive Him, the God-man, who came for your sake. This is the message today of Christmas.

Selected by Brother Willard Beam

CHRISTIAN WORK

Every child of God is called to be a witness for his Blessed Lord. Acts. 1:8. The Lord wants each of us to tell others what the Lord has done for him. He loved us and He gave His only begotten Son who died on the cross so we could inherit eternal life. If we receive of the Lord, we should be willing to share with others. We can do this by speaking to lost souls, helping those who are in need and those who are sick. We are commanded to go into all the world and spread the news of the Gospel, trying to win those who are outside the fold and those dear ones who have wandered away. The Heavenly Father does not want any to miss that Home He has gone to prepare. It is up to us, as Christian workers, to spread the glad tidings of the good news of salvation. This is a call to every consecrated child of God. When Jesus called the disciples, He told them to take up the cross and follow Him. Every one of us can become fishers of men and women.

Let us feed His precious lambs. We want also to feed the sheep. We must not only feed the babes in Christ, there are many who have been in His service for years who still need food. We are told that the Word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and Spirit.

If we are willing to ask, we will receive, seek and we shall find. Are we willing to ask the Lord for help and guidance? If we knock, it shall be opened unto us. He has promised never to leave us. We don't have many friends that will stay by when we are in need. Jesus will give us power, and he will guide us and protect us, if we are willing to witness for Him. We must be faithful and sincere. Let us teach the whole Gospel and labour faithfully for the Lord.

We are helpless without Faith. We can do nothing. Let us put on the whole armour of God and go out and labour in His vineyard. The fields are white, ready for harvest. Are we, each one, ready to do our part to bring in the harvest of the many lost ones into the Fold?

Sister E. M. Alltus

THE GIFT FOR HIM

I was weary with the planning
  For the coming Christmastide,
With the hurry of the shopping
  And a dozen things beside;

And I stopped to rest a moment
  In the comfy, old armchair,
And I closed my eyes in slumber
  All before I was aware.
But the thoughts and plans for Christmas
  Could not let me rest, 'twould seem,
For I found them still before me,
  Although woven in a dream;
This would be the gift for mother,
  This would please another friend,
Each would bring sincere devotion,
  Or a loving wish would send.
In the midst of all these fancies,
  Lo, a voice I seemed to hear!
'Twas a voice of wondrous sweetness,
  And my Lord was standing near,
With His eyes so full of longing,
  And His smile I still can see,
As He whispered, very softly,
  "What will be your gift to Me?"
"Lord, my heart to Thee I've given,
  All I have is freely Thine,
What beside couldst Thou desire
  At this helpless hand of mine?"
Then it seemed the Master faded
  Slowly back beyond my view,
And instead, I saw the millions
  Who of Jesus never knew;
Millions, lost without a Saviour,
  Waiting still to hear the Word
That would tell them of redemption,
  That would point them to the Lord.
"Inasmuch as ye should do it
  Unto one of these," He said,
"I would count the service rendered
  As a gift to Me instead;
Give them knowledge of a Saviour,
  Give them hope and joy and peace,
That their hearts to Me be given;
  This I ask you, give Me these."

- Mrs. H. S. Lehman
Selected by Sister Ruth Drake

THE STRANGER OF CHRISTMAS

The night was clear and very cold,
All diamond set, the sky of blue;
The earth was mantled all in white
Beneath the moon's bright golden hue.

Folks were rushing to and fro,
Their hearts were gay with mirth and song;
For Christmas time had come again
Full well they knew — this busy throng.

The shops were filled with gifts galore;
The homes all glowed with warmth and light,
The Christmas tree were tinsel-trimmed.
For Santa Claus would come tonite.

Into the rushing laughing throng
A stranger came, and looked about;
Alone, unnoticed and unheard,
Amid the noise, the din, the shout.

Slowly down the street he came,
And paused beside a mansion door;
He was just a stranger come to town;
And he was tired — and he was poor.

He lifted tiny baby hands
And rang the bell, all soft and low;
A woman opened wide the door;
And baby Jesus said, "Hello —

I came to help you celebrate;
To share your home awhile,
Would you mind if I came in?"
And baby Jesus seemed to smile.

"O Baby Jesus, I'm surprised
I scarce know what to say or do,
I'm very, very tired tonight
For I have worked the whole day through.

Santa's coming very soon —
His pack is full and running o'er
The children are expecting him
Each year they seem to love him more.

You're just a stranger, don't you see?
They've scarcely heard of you I know;
I'd most forgotten you myself
I'd heard so very long ago.

My house is crowded full of guests
Much like the inn of long ago;
I'm sorry that there isn't room;
I'm sorry I must bid you go.

There is a cottage down the street
With battered roof and broken stair,
The folks are poor, but this I know
They often shelter strangers there.

The manger bed is very good;
'Twas chosen long ago for thee.
The warmth, the light, the pleasant things —
These are for mine — and me.

I hear the shepherds used to come;
Perhaps they'll come again,
And wise men from the east may know
About the stable near the inn."

And so the Babe of Bethlehem,
Unloved, unwanted, could not stay;
The greatest gift God ever gave,
In thoughtlessness she threw away.

One night, outside of Heaven's door
She stood alone in darkest gloom;
And heard the Master sadly say,
"I'm sorry, but there isn't room."

O, may we open wide the door
Nor turn this Holy Child away;
But graciously invite the Christ
To come into our hearts — to stay!

Selected by Brother Lester Flora

A CHRISTMAS CONFESSION

By Michael Cassidy

(... A manger... because there was no room... Luke 2:7)

"Lord, things haven't changed much. Room for you was tight from the start. I suppose you expected that. I mean, the inn was full, and I'm sure you didn't really want anyone to move. Just think of the inconvenience. And the innkeeper's reputation. Besides, all their minds were on important things — like their families, and local politics, and religion. Surely, you didn't want to intrude on all that. And, Lord, if they'd let you in and given you the best room, who would have paid? After all, you didn't want people to run themselves short, did you, Lord? Not at Christmas time, anyway. But that manger, Lord. That's the thing that really bothers me. You see, Lord, I think... I... mean maybe I have put you in a manger too."

Selected by Sister Ruth Drake

OBITUARY

SAMUEL ST. JOHN

Bro. Samuel Ward St. John, son of William and Elizabeth (Landis) St. John, was born April 23, 1886, near Bryan, Ohio. He passed away on October 6, 1980, at the age of 94 years, 5 months and 13 days, at the farm home where he had resided for sixty years. At an early age he gave his heart to the Lord and joined the Silver Creek Church of the Brethren.

On October 23, 1920, he was united in marriage to Nellie Clapper. To this union was born two daughters, Mrs. Harold (Ruth) Kleinhen, Bryan, Ohio and Mrs. Harley (Marjorie) Flory, Defiance, Ohio, and three sons, Clifford, Stryker, Ohio; Edwin, Pioneer, Ohio and Dean, Camden, Michigan. Also surviving are sixteen grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, one brother, Victor, and one sister Mrs. C. E. (Marie) Kintner, both of Bryan, Ohio.

In 1926 he and his companion became charter members of the Pleasant Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church and on September 16, 1939, the Church called them to the Deacon's office, to which calling he remained faithful to the end of life. His one great joy was attendance at the house of the Lord as long as health permitted. He was confined to his home for the last two years.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Nellie, on September 30, 1967, also three brothers and one sister.

Gone is the soul that we have loved,
And father is at rest —
His work is done; he sleeps in peace
Among the Master's best.

His work is finished on the earth,
And his rewards are won —
Nor would we weep or shed a tear
Because his work is done.

But rather we should face the world,
As fathers always do —
With eyes upturned to face the light
Of each kind day anew.

NEWS ITEM

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lititz Congregation enjoyed another Lovefeast on Saturday, October 18 with a good attendance. Ministers present were Elders, David Ebling, Frank Shaffer; Ministers, Paul Hartz, John Peffer, David Kegerreis, Eldon Mallow. In the evening Elder Frank Shaffer officiated. We were glad to have Bro. Frank Shaffer and Bro. David Kegerreis here on Sunday morning.

On November 3, Elder Dale Jamison came here for a two week revival. He brought us many soul stirring messages. We were glad for two precious souls who gave their hearts to the Lord.

We were glad to have Sister Jamison with us the two weeks. May the Lord richly bless Bro. Jamison in his labor for the Master. We were glad for the good attendance that we had throughout the meetings.

Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

NOTICE

Please inform the Editor of any changes that need to be made in the material for the February 1 issue by January 1. Thank you.

The Editor

PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

The Pleasant Home Congregation had a time of refreshing with Bro. Allen Eberly of Pennsylvania during our recent Revival.

Bro. Eberly preached the Word with Power. We had many visitors and our Communion Service was a blessing to all of us.

May God richly bless Bro. Eberly and his companion as they labor for the Lord.

Sister Edyth Kline, Cor.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JANUARY, 1981

DEATH

Memory Verse: Rev. 21:5
And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Thur. 1 - Rev. 21:1-27
Fri. 2 - John 11:1-16
Sat. 3 - John 11:17-37

Memory Verse: John 11:25
Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

Sun. 4 - John 11:38-57
Mon. 5 - John 12:1-26
Tues. 6 - John 12:27-50
Wed. 7 - John 18:1-18
Thur. 8 - John 18:19-40
Fri. 9 - John 19:1-22
Sat. 10 - John 19:23-42

Memory Verse: Acts 2:24
Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Sun. 11 - John 20:1-18
Mon. 12 - John 20:19-31
Tues. 13 - John 21:1-25
Wed. 14 - Acts 2:1-24
Thur. 15 - Acts 2:25-47
Fri. 16 - Acts 3:1-26
Sat. 17 - Acts 4:1-20

Memory Verse: Acts 4:10
Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

Sun. 18 - Acts 4:21-37
Mon. 19 - Acts 10:1-24
Tues. 20 - Acts 10:24-48
Wed. 21 - Acts 12:1-25
Thur. 22 - Acts 13:1-26
Fri. 23 - Acts 13:27-52
Sat. 24 - Acts 14:1-28

Memory Verse: Acts 10:42
And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the judge of quick and dead.

Sun. 25 - Acts 17:1-15
Mon. 26 - Acts 17:16-34
Tues. 27 - Acts 22:1-30
Wed. 28 - Acts 23:1-17
Thur. 29 - Acts 23:18-35
Fri. 30 - Acts 24:1-27
Sat. 31 - Acts 25:1-27

Memory Verse: Acts 17:31
Because he hath appointed a day, in which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Acts 24:15
And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.